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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21ST 2016

TV COUPLE'S DIFFICULT EDUCATION DILEMMA
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OUR FILM CRITIC LOOKS AT LEO'S 'BRUTAL' NEW MOVIE
 Pages 15

Holton Road Post Office is earmarked for closure

BARRY'S biggest Post Office, located in Holton Road opposite the Civic Offices, is in danger of closing.

Vale MP Alun Cairns described proposals suggesting closure as "deeply concerning" after plans were announced to close the long-established local service.

If a closure does take place, it will be a big blow to people in the centre of the town and to

by GEM REPORTER

local businesses.

Mr Cairns told The GEM he had held immediate discussions with Post Office senior management to ensure that all avenues were being explored to save the facility.

He explained: "I am shocked and angered to learn that the Post Office has announced plans to close such a high-profile and well-used facility on Holton Road."

"It is all the more

concerning when we consider the potential impact on local traders and shoppers in this key commercial area of Barry."

"Many local people depend on the services delivered by this Post Office and travel to Holton Road specifically for that purpose. I am calling on the Post Office to keep this principal branch open until a new operator can be found."

The Vale's AM Jane Hutt said she would object to closure on behalf of local business community and customers.

"Barry is the largest town in Wales, and benefits from Welsh Government Regeneration funding. It is simply unacceptable for the Post Office to close something which needs to remain in the heart and centre of the town. I will be meeting with the Post Office to discuss this as a matter of urgency," she added.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

FLOWERING CHERRY MARKS WI CENTENARY IN PENARTH



The Mayors of the Vale and Penarth with John Greatrex from the parks department and representatives of the WI at the centenary.

War hero's medals to go under the hammer

by GEM REPORTER

THIS Saturday, the medals of a First World War hero from Barry will be auctioned in Suffolk.

A spokesman for Lockdales, the auctioneers in Martlesham, near Ipswich, told The GEM: "The 1915 'Star Trio' of Lieutenant Charles R Froom is mounted as worn."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



Lieutenant Charles R Froom's 'Star Trio'.

ABOVE:

MAYOR of the Vale, Coun Fred Johnson, was asked by Penarth WI to dedicate the planting of a flowering cherry, provided by the parks department of the Vale Council, in Alexandra Gardens, Penarth, which marks the WI movement's centenary.

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Christmas Ball
 Friday 9th December. Live dance music and exhibition dance.

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 Penarth Road
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 CF62 5QS

'Response to 'joke' parking penalty beggared belief'

WITH reference to last week's GEM report on the placing of a 'joke' parking ticket on her car in Barry, if Coun Lis Burnett cannot tell the difference between a yellow Post-it note and an official penalty charge notice, then she really should have gone to Specsavers!

That aside, what right does she have to abuse her council privileges by demanding to see CCTV to find out who committed this crime?

To then threaten to involve 'the authorities'

unless an apology was made, beggars belief!

Does this councillor think that the police are so underworked that they will drop everything and immediately investigate her incident?

As far as I am aware, it is not yet an offence to have a sense of humour and I am utterly sick of people who take offence when, quite clearly in this case, none was intended.

Her unbelievably petulant behaviour is one reason why some women are ridiculed when they make a genuine complaint.

Gina Burton, Barry.

Questions over CCTV footage

IFEEL I must respond to the diatribe from Coun Lis Burnett following a 'Post it' note being placed on her car at High Street Barry.

To state: "It would probably be too much to expect Mr England to understand the issues faced by women on a daily basis," is both condescending and a seriously bad error of judgement in such a light-hearted matter.

On a more serious note, I would like to know how Ms Burnett obtained the CCTV footage she refers to?

Ms Burnett is quite correct in stating that anyone can ask to see CCTV footage of themselves held by public bodies.

This is known as a 'subject access request'. Such requests have to be processed within 40 days and are subject to a £10 fee.

However, such images should pixelate out any other persons in the images shown. I also

wonder if this fee was paid in such a period of austerity.

If Ms Burnett thought there were criminal intentions, in this case, then it is the police who can apply to get these images and progress an investigation.

To state that Ms Burnett saw the 'alleged' offender approach her car and then walk around the block, suggests that the CCTV cameras are being used for surveillance purposes, which is subject to strict guidelines.

Is this another case of an elected official banging their fists on the table and demanding information which they are not entitled to see?

If so, this would appear to be a clear breach of the Data Protection Act, and, in my view, should be referred to the Information Commissioner's office for further investigation.

Peter Jenkins, Barry.

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: **The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk**

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address

and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

DARREN FARM: 'Premature planning approval a sad day for democratic rights'

THE planning application to develop

Darren Farm was approved by the Vale of Glamorgan planning committee on January 14; a proposed motion to defer the decision, until the LDP Examination Inspector had ruled on inclusion of the site in the LDP, was defeated.

The Vale Council has gone to considerable lengths to comply with its obligations on public consultation in the LDP process. Residents have responded enthusiastically on the issue of Darren Farm, with over 200

representations and a petition with over 1,500 signatures in December 2013 opposing the proposed LDP

allocation (and a similar number in February 2015 opposing the premature CEG planning application).

The LDP representations together with all other LDP documents were submitted by the council to the Welsh Government and Planning Inspectorate on July 24, 2015 for independent examination by the Inspector.

However, this consultation process has been subjugated by this pre-emptive approval of the application last week by the planning committee, based on a

seriously flawed planning officers' report and the recommendation to approve.

This hasty and ill-conceived decision to bypass the Welsh Government LDP process was totally unwarranted, because Welsh Water have ruled that the housing part of the proposed development cannot be implemented until March 2018, when their Cowbridge sewage and waste water facility is due to be upgraded.

The LDP Inspector is due to consider the Darren Farm allocation at his Hearing Session 8 on Wednesday, March 2.

This premature approval subjugates and undermines this Hearing Session and the subsequent

considerations and decisions on this subject by the Inspector.

It bypasses the final stages of the LDP and the democratic rights of the residents to have their representations considered by the appointed LDP Inspector, which should take place before any action is taken by the council on the issues involved.

January 14 was a sad day for the residents of Cowbridge whose representations have been subverted and a sad day for democratic rights in the Vale of Glamorgan planning process.

Chris Pearce, Coordinator, Cowbridge and Llanblethian Residents Group.

'Stop political points scoring'

THE headline in last week's GEM reporting Coun Burnett being the target of a 'prank', left me really bemused as to why such a matter had made the front page.

Coun Burnett's actions in response could be viewed by many as an over-reaction, but nonetheless useful as an

opportunity to have a pop at the opposition, judging by her need to write to Mr Alun Cairns MP and demand CCTV footage, in an attempt to identify the culprit behind this heinous act.

There are huge challenges facing the Vale and our council representatives should concentrate their time and attention on things which really matter, demonstrate political maturity, and resist the desire to score points at any opportunity.

Rob Taylor, Barry.

'Street CCTV should be for police fighting crime'

I WANT to express concern and surprise following your report - 'Labour woman councillor hits out at Tory's post-it prank', The GEM, January 14.

I have little interest in the 'prank' or the behaviour of the two political activists, but that is not what surprised me about the story.

Readers will recall the incident involved a Post-it note placed on Coun Burnett's car windshield saying 'penalty charge notice'. Coun Burnett is quoted in the GEM article saying: "It was interesting to see on the CCTV footage, Ross England ...".

I expressed some concern on social media that she should be allowed to view street CCTV: councillors having access to look at CCTV footage to trace a third party who they object to, has a whiff of Big Brother about it.

Why not report it to the police, if they feel something is wrong?

I understand there is a legal right to request a copy of your own image, but third party images must be masked.

Surely, street CCTV should be for the police fighting crime; the emergency services; monitoring traffic, or community safety, but most certainly not for the use of councillors seeking to identify someone whose actions they may dislike?

Coun Burnett replied to my concern on social media by saying she "did not review the footage"; on the face of it, contradicting her reported quotes in The GEM and other news media.

I feel strongly about any wrongful use of CCTV and I have made a formal complaint to the council, which I may follow up with a letter to the Information Commissioner's office.

Dennis Harkus, (FocusBARRY member).

Bank closures: 'Residents should vote with their feet'

THERE was a lot of huffing and puffing to no avail when HSBC and then NatWest closed their branches in Llantwit Major.

Barclays appears to be next, presumably with the same lame excuse that there is insufficient usage of the branch to warrant keeping it open.

In response to Alun Cairns' letter of invitation to a public meeting to discuss the issue with representatives of Barclays, I would suggest that the only effective course of action for anyone wanting to bank at a local branch in Llantwit

Major is to vote with their feet.

Alun Cairns has been told by Lloyds that there are no plans to close their Llantwit branch.

It would make sense for anyone with accounts at HSBC, NatWest and Barclays who would prefer to bank at a local branch in Llantwit to transfer their accounts to Lloyds.

This would increase the usage of the Lloyds branch and reduce the risk of it being closed in the future.

It would also send a clear message to all the banks that if they close their local branches anywhere in the UK, they will lose customers. **R P Banks, Llantwit Major.**

German Shepherd dog charity needs GEM readers' help

WE are volunteers for the UK German Shepherd Rescue Angels, a charity based in Wales.

The rescue is completely run by volunteers, including the founder. We are all based up and down the country and various parts of Wales and we constantly raise money throughout the year to fund the rescuing, feeding, fostering, kennel bills, rehabilitation, veterinary bills and day to day costs involved with helping German Shepherds.

The running of the rescue is solely reliant on the goodwill of the general public.

At this present time we are struggling to raise sufficient funds to accept more dogs, a situation which we are not happy about. We are appealing to GEM readers to help us, normally we cope, but are struggling.

If you can help us in any way by fostering or adopting a German Shepherd or by donating anything at all please contact Eileen Bennett on 01446 794729, or Jo Eveleigh (née Staples) on 01646 651452.

If you want to find out more or to donate online please view our website www.uk-gsr.co.uk. **Mike Eveleigh and Joanne Eveleigh (née Staples) Kilgetty.**

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JANUARY 28)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary.

For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
21 Thur	03.59	8.6	16.31	8.8
22 Fri	04.58	9.1	17.28	9.2
23 Sat	05.51	9.5	18.16	9.6
24 Sun	06.37	9.8	18.58	9.7
25 Mon	07.14	9.9	19.37	9.9
26 Tues	07.51	10.0	20.09	9.8
27 Wed	08.25	9.7	20.44	9.6
28 Thur	08.59	9.5	21.16	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Safer Vale granted Criminal Behaviour Order against a Penarth teenager

A 16-YEAR-OLD from Penarth has received a Criminal Behaviour Order, thanks to a partnership between the local community and the Safer Vale Partnership.

Noah King received a two-year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) after his continued anti-social behaviour, persistently caused harassment, alarm and distress to the community.

The CBO prohibits King as follows:

- Noah King will not cause a nuisance or act in an intimidating or annoying manner, likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to any person not in the same household, within the Vale of Glamorgan.

Nor will he, or any other third party, do so via means including written communication, electronic means or telecommunication.

- Noah King will not be in a public place



NOAH KING.

within the Vale of Glamorgan for more than four persons (including himself) unless accompanied by a parent/guardian, member of the Youth Offending Service, or directed by an educational establishment.

- Noah King will not enter a public place while having consumed alcohol, or under the influence of any illegal substances; he will not himself be in possession of alcohol in a public place, in the Vale of Glamorgan, that is not a public house or restaurant save for and except in the company of his parent.

Inspector Naomi Drew of the Safer Vale Partnership said: "This positive action in securing the two-year CBO demonstrates the Safer Partnership is pro-actively tackling anti-social behaviour within our communities, and is getting tough on those who display this type of behaviour."

Deborah Gibbs, of the Safer Partnership, said: "If King breaches this order, he will be arrested and placed before the courts."

"We urge the public and local residents to contact the police if they see him in breach of any of the conditions of his CBO."

"The community's help in letting us know when, or if, these orders are broken is vital to their success."

A Criminal Behaviour Order is an order which is available on conviction for any criminal offence by a criminal court; introduced by the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (ABCPA 2014, s.22) with effect from October 20, 2014.

'Poppy response humbling' says the British Legion

BARRY branch of the Royal British Legion recently finalised the Poppy Appeal for October 2014-September 2015 when just over £51,000 was raised, a huge increase on the previous year's £33,000.

The current appeal, which began on October 1, 2015, and includes last November's collection has just topped £45,000 and still has until September to run.

Incredibly, nearly £20,000 was collected or raised by Cadets, Sea Scouts, Rangers and in the town's schools. Roy Goodwin, Poppy appeal organiser said: "It was incredibly

humbling to see so much money coming in. The generosity of the people of Barry, Rhoose and Peterston, both with donations and by volunteering their time, has been overwhelming.

"I cannot begin to express our thanks for this massive community effort. Sadly, more and more people contact the Legion for help every day. Every penny raised really does make a difference."

"It is fabulous to see the town's youngsters so keen to help us and learn about our work," he added.

For more information about how to get involved, contact 07776 111385.

Hard of hearing group get-together

MEMBERS of Barry Hear to Meet group enjoyed a delicious three-course meal at Cwm Ciddy Carvery, Barry, last month.

Along with volunteers, Pam and Fiona, they were celebrating another successful year of meetings organised by Action on Hearing Loss Cymru.

The group gets together on the first Friday of every month in the Philip John Room upstairs in Barry Library between 2pm and 4pm. Usually, there is a speaker on a range of interesting topics and afterwards there is always time for a chat

over tea and cake, when members can share their memories.

New members are always welcome and free transport can be arranged if needed in the local area. The group is aimed at over-60s with significant hearing loss, and there is a loop system in the room to ensure that everyone is included. There is no charge as the group is funded by Action on Hearing Loss Cymru.

For further information, contact Martin Griffiths from Action on Hearing Loss on 09220 333034; use Text Relay 18002 09220 333378; or email martin.griffiths@hearin gloss.org.uk.

FW

NEWS IN BRIEF

Charity sale
THERE will be a 50p sale in the All Saints' lesser hall, Victoria Square, Penarth on Wednesday, January 27 from 2pm - 3.30pm.

Entry 50p, will include tea/coffee. Bargains for all, and everything at 50p! All the proceeds will go to charity.

Blues guitarist ON Saturday, February 13, blues and folk singer Sunjay is playing at Roots 'n' All, West End Club, 54 St Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QX. Doors open at 7.15pm; call box office on 07561 143114.

Pensioner thanks woman for handing in lost purse

A BARRY pensioner wants to thank a mystery woman who handed in her purse at Lidl supermarket in the town.

The pensioner called Josie, who is 80 years old, said: "I went to Lidl last Thursday and when I got back in my car, I had to lean out a little to close the door. I think I must have dropped my purse at that moment, but didn't realise."

"It was only the next morning that I found out it was missing."

Josie had cards, a copy of her breakdown insurance and her driving licence in the purse, and on Friday morning began cancelling the cards to ensure that no fraud could take place.

"When I went in to Lidl and told them I had lost my purse, they asked me my name. When I told them, they said a lady had handed it in."

"I was very relieved because you don't always expect people to be honest."

"I wanted to thank the lady, but they said she had not left her name, so I wanted to thank her via The GEM."

Barry National Spiritualist Church & Centre

Demonstration of Mediumship Paul & Deb Rees

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STARTERS

Mixed Thalia Platter(for 2) £5.95
King Prawn/Prawn Puree£4.50/£3.25
Shamee Kebab / Shree Kebab£2.85
Tandoori Lamb Chops£3.95
Tandoori Salmon£4.50
Lamb Mirpuri£5.95
King Prawn Delight£4.50
Mixed Tandoori£3.50
Chicken Tikka, Lamb Tikka and Shree Kebab
Chicken Pakora£2.95
King Prawn With Garlic£4.50
Chicken Chat / Aloo Chat£2.95 / £2.50
Garlic Mushrooms£2.50
Onion Bhajees£1.95

MUMBAI SPECIALTIES

Achari Beef, Chicken or Lamb£6.25
Prepared with chillies, pickling spices, cumin and coriander
Murg E-Bahar£6.50
Marinated Chicken breast, rolled with spicy minced lamb, cooked with fresh coriander, almond powder, Kashmiri masala, fenugreek and tomato in a smooth creamy sauce
Murg Mirch Massala£6.25
Tender pieces of Chicken, delicately marinated in a traditional tikka marinade cooked in a red chilli and tomato sauce
Bengal Steak: Turkey£7.95
The healthy poultry option, braised turkey fillets with spicy mushrooms bhuna style. Served with salad and spicy Bengali potato wedges.

TANDOORI MAIN DISHES

Chicken or Lamb Tikka£5.75/£5.95
Tandoori Mixed Grill£8.50
Tandoori King Prawn£8.50
Tandoori Shashlic£8.50
Tandoori Lamb Chops£7.50
Mixed Shashlic - Chicken & Lamb£7.95

MUMBAI SET MEALS

Curry Deal£20.00
2 Onion Bhaji's, 2 Chicken Curry, 2 Pilaw Rice, 1 Chips, 1 Plain Nan Bread, 2 plain Pappadams, 1 Onion Chutney, 2 Mint Sauce, 1 (1.5ltr) bottle of coke
Madras Deal£20.00
2 Meat Samosas, 2 Chicken Madras, 2 Pilaw Rice, 1 Chips, 1 Plain Nan Bread, 2 plain Pappadams, 1 Onion Chutney, 2 Mint Sauce, 1 (1.5ltr) bottle of Coke
Massala Deal£20.00
1 Onion Bhaji, 1 Chicken Tikka, 2 Chicken Tikka Massala, 2 Pilaw Rice, 2 plain Nan Bread, 1 Chips,

1 Onion Chutney, 2 plain Pappadams, 2 Mint Sauce, 1 (1.5 ltr) bottle of Coke.
Korma Deal£20.00
1 Meat Samosa, 1 Onion Bhaji, 2 Chicken Korma, 2 Pilaw Rice, 1 Chips, 1 plain Nan Bread, 2 plain Pappadams, 1 Onion Chutney, 2 Mint Sauce, 1 (1.5 ltr) bottle of Coke.

BALTI

Chicken or Lamb Balti£5.75 / £5.95
King Prawn Balti£7.50
Jalfrezi Balti - Chicken or Lamb Tikka£6.25 / £6.50
Exotic Balti - with chicken, lamb, prawns & spinach£6.95

BIRIANI DISHES

Chicken or Lamb Biriani£5.95 / £6.25
Chicken Tikka Biriani£6.95
Prawn Biriani£5.95
Vegetable Biriani£5.50
Maharajah Biriani£7.50
Prepared with Chicken Tikka, Lamb Tikka, Minced Lamb with a topping of almonds and sultanas

OUR CHEF'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Peshwari Jhinga£7.95
King Prawn flavoured with mustard seeds, onion seeds, fennel, coriander, tomatoes and cooked with potatoes in a medium curry.
Karahi Chicken Tikka or Lamb Tikka£6.25 / £6.75
Cooked with chopped onions, sliced ginger, capsicum, tomatoes and fresh spices.
Chicken Tikka Jalfrezi£6.25
Succulent pieces of Spring Chicken cooked with capsicums, chopped onions, fresh green chillies and fresh herbs
Chicken Tikka Massala£6.25
Tender pieces of Chicken cooked in a mild creamy sauce
Lamb Passanda Nawab£6.50
Tender Lamb cooked with fresh cultured yoghurt and cream, mixed with nuts.
Makhani Chicken£6.25
A mild dish cooked with fresh cream, ground almonds and coconuts with a touch of massala spices.
Goa Green Chicken£6.25
Succulent pieces of Tandoori Chicken cooked in a variety of fresh green herbs, spices, green chillies and green beans
Special Tikka Bhuna£6.50
Tandoori Chicken and Minced Lamb cooked with sliced onions, green peppers, ginger and garlic with fresh herbs in a medium curry.
Chicken Tikka Dansak£6.25
A hot sweet and sour dish cooked with lentils, fenugreek and coriander.

Chicken Tikka Bhuna£6.25
Tandoori Chicken Tikka cooked with onions, freshly ground spices and green herbs in a thick, medium curry sauce.
South Indian Garlic Chilli Chicken£6.50
Tandoori Chicken pieces, cooked in fresh garlic and chilli sauce with crisp red chillies.
Chicken Jajjala£6.25
Very hot curry cooked with naga crushed chillies, green chillies and garlic red chillies.
Anarkoli - Chicken or Lamb£6.25
Cooked with garlic, green chillies, red peppers, mustard seeds, madras hot.

Jalali - Chicken or Lamb£6.35
Cooked with garlic, green chillies, mixed peppers, slightly hot.
Vegetable Sizzler£5.50
Cooked with garlic, green chillies, jalapenos, mixed peppers.

Chicken or Lamb Sizzler£6.25
Cooked with garlic, green chillies, jalapenos, red peppers and red onions.
Mumbai Special Curry£7.95
Cooked with mushrooms, chicken, lamb, prawn and king prawn - madras hot.

Jajlong£6.25
Cooked with garlic, red chillies, red peppers, vindaloo hot.
Dry Chicken Massala£6.25
Cooked with special bhona sauce.

Chicken or Lamb Kolkoli£6.25
Cooked with garlic, red chillies, red peppers, green peppers, madras hot.
Baha-Ra-Meat Bhuna£6.25
Cooked with garlic, green chillies, mustard seeds, served with special sauces, madras hot.

Tandoori Maharaji Massala£6.50
Stripped tandoori chicken and minced lamb cooked in a thick spicy yoghurt sauce.

TRADITIONAL MILD DISHES

Bhuna - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Rogan - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Dupiaza - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Sag - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Shali - Chicken or Lamb£5.50 / £5.95
Chicken or Lamb Curry£5.25 / £5.75

TRADITIONAL MEDIUM DISHES

Bhuna - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Rogan - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Dupiaza - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Sag - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Shali - Chicken or Lamb£5.50 / £5.95
Chicken or Lamb Curry£5.25 / £5.75

TRADITIONAL HOT DISHES

Madras or Vindaloo£5.25/£5.75
Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75

Pathia - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75
Danskak - Chicken or Lamb£5.25 / £5.75

SEAFOOD

Available with King Prawn at an extra cost of £3.00
Bhuna Prawn£5.25
Pathia Prawn£5.25
Sag Prawn£5.25
Danskak Prawn£5.25
Shali Prawn£5.25
Spicy prawn in a thick spicy sauce with a topping of fried straw potatoes.
Medium, Madras or Vindaloo Prawn£5.25
Korma Prawn£5.25

VEGETARIAN DISHES

Mishti Kodu£4.95
Butternut Squash cooked with light spices.
Kathiri Kai Kara Kozhumbu£4.95
Balti Vegetable Massala£4.95
Mixed vegetables in a creamy, mild yoghurt sauce
Jalfrezi Vegetable Paneer£4.95
Fairly hot, cooked with green chillies, fresh spices & cottage cheese.
Balti Vegetable Malaya£4.95
Fresh vegetables in a mild to medium curry sauce with pineapple
Danskak Vegetable or Chana£4.95
Mixed vegetables or chick peas in a hot, sweet and sour curry with lentils
Sag Paneer Side £2.35, Main £4.50
Home-made cottage cheese with fresh shredded spinach.
Aloo Gobi or Sag Aloo Side £2.35, Main £4.50
Dal Tarka Side £2.35, Main £4.50
Panner Tikka Karahi Main £4.95
Cottage Cheese cooked with chopped onions, sliced ginger, capsicum, tomatoes & fresh spices

RICE AND ROTI (BREADS)

Plain Rice£1.70
Pilau Rice£1.95
Mushroom Fried Rice£2.35
Lemon Rice£2.35
Keema Fried Rice£2.50
Special Fried Rice - Eggs & Peas£2.35
Half and Half£2.15
Chips£1.70
Chapatti£1.00
Nan - Plain£1.70
Nan - Keema / Peshwari / Garlic / Cheese & Onion £1.95
Paratha£2.10
Pappadum - Plain or Spicy 55p / 65p
Raitha - Plain, Cucumber or Onion£1.25
Chutney or Lime Pickle 65p

MEDALS GO UNDER THE HAMMER

**CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 1**

The spokesman continued: "He was with the 8th Battalion of

the South Wales Borderers Regiment. "They will be sold off this Saturday, January 23, and have a

catalogue guide price of £80 to £85." On the application for the medals, Lieutenant Froom's

address is listed as 8 Maes y Cwm Street, Barry Dock, having previously lived in Cadoxton.

If anyone from Barry is interested in making a bid for a part of the town's history, Lieutenant Froom's medals are designated lot 25.

The number to call is 01473 627110 and prospective buyers should ask for Chris Elmy or James Sadler; alternatively, email sales@lockdales.com.

Born in 1895, Charles Room Froom enlisted in the 8th South Wales Borderers and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

The 8th Battalion was formed of volunteers on September 19, 1914 at Brecon, and after a period of training at Seaford in Sussex, they landed at Boulogne in France on September 5, 1915.

In February 1915, Charles had received some dreadful news. His brother, Private

Joseph H. Froom of the 1st Bn. Welsh Regiment, had been killed in action on February 8, 1915, aged 23.

The son of John William and Harriet Froom of Glebe House, Victoria Park, Cadoxton, he had been educated at Cadoxton School and Barry County School.

He worked as a clerk in the surveyors' department of Barry District Council and had been at the Front since the beginning of the War.

He entered the front line at Zillebeke and Blaauwpoot Farm on the day he was killed.

Destined for Salonika, Charles and his battalion sailed from Marseilles on October 30 and arrived on November 12.

In this theatre of the Great War, the Serbians had been fighting against Germans, Austrians and Bulgarians.

To aid them in this struggle, the British and

French dispatched over 150,000 troops. The battalion spent the winter of 1915-16 in appalling conditions and the line barely moved in 30 months.

They mostly took part in raids and patrols against the Bulgarians. The summer brought intense heat, flies, dysentery and malaria which added to their misery.

On October 30, 1917 Charles was commissioned into the Welsh Regiment.

He survived the war, married Clara Andrews in 1919, and died in Gloucestershire in November 1954.

(The GEM would like to thank Dr Jonathan Hicks for the additional biographical information on Lieutenant Froom's life. Dr Hick's additional details have been passed on to a grateful representative of Lockdales.)

Congestion concerns as houses get go-ahead



Castle Drive is a traffic 'bottle-neck' in Dinas Powys, with cars parking across the road from the parking bays at the shops.

THE largest the presence of planning application for housing in Dinas Powys, for many years was given the go-ahead by the Vale Planning committee last Thursday, January 4.

A bid for 70 houses off Caerleon Road had been submitted by the United Welsh Housing Association adjacent to the association's existing estate.

Prior to planning permission being granted there had been a furious reaction on Facebook to the proposals. Residents said they were unhappy about the traffic implications along Castle Drive and at the Murch Road-Cardiff Road signals.

The site earmarked for development runs parallel to the railway line and Caerleon Road housing. The land lies within the Green Wedge according to the current Unitary Development Plan between Dinas Powys and Penarth. Part of the 2.73 ha site includes 1.3ha of land allocated for recreational space according to the plan agreed many years ago.

Local Plaid councillor Chris Francis explained: "According to the planning report some of the land lies within a C2 Flood Risk Zone. The drawing indicates 39 private houses and 27 social housing. There appears to be concern expressed by Vale officers that the ground has been cleared without

the presence of ecologists." Coun Franks said extra traffic created by the addition of 70 houses would cause even more congestion and hazards at the Tescos junction and at the Murch Road-Cardiff Road traffic lights.

He went on: "We warned when the Local Development Plan was approved that road issues could not be resolved. However the public was misled and the Vale assured everyone that adequate improvements were possible. Now the truth is out. There are no road improvements. That is because nothing is possible. This was known from the start."

"The farcical suggestion that residents should be encouraged to use the trains is also misleading. Often the trains are full. Parents with young children especially, find the platforms difficult, due to the footbridge. We have been badly let down by the Vale Council."

Dinas Community Council objects in principle to further housing allocations being made in the village until a feasibility study of the highways and transport network has been undertaken.

It believes that there are already major highways and transport problems along the main road through Dinas Powys and the existing Cardiff Road/Murch Road junction is already over-capacity. All the traffic has to negotiate the Tesco junction.

Is a key Post Office closing?

**(CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 1)**

Plaid Cymru's Coun Ian Johnson said the two major parties were responsible because they had allowed private companies a totally free rein in their decision-making.

"If these rumours are correct then the Post Office will be closed outright, and not even put up for sale as a franchise - unlike almost every other proposed closure."

"This shows the failure of the Conservatives at Westminster and the

Welsh Government to protect public services, allowing privatised companies to do whatever they like, wherever they like."

"With the Vale Council set to close even more offices in the western end of Holton Road, I am concerned that we are going to see that end of the street become a ghost town unless action is taken quickly to save the Post Office and set up new businesses there."

The GEM hopes to run a statement from the Post Office next week.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (SOLENT ROAD, BARRY) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2016

1. On 21st January 2016 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Solent Road, Barry) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2016.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location Solent Road throughout its length.
Reason To allow works in connection with the Coldbrook Flood Risk Management Scheme to take place.
Duration From 8.00am on Monday 25th January 2016 for a maximum period of 18 Months. It is anticipated that the works will be concluded in 3 Months (weather permitting).
Alt. Route Diversions for traffic will be available via two new temporary access that will be created at the end of both Ewbank Close and Solent Road onto Dobbins Road. These diversions shall be implemented as required in order to facilitate the intended works.
NB Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times

Dated this 21st day of January 2016.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2015 GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) (LŌN DDENW (RHAN YN UNIG), LLANDDUNWYD)

1. Ar 21 Ionawr 2016, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14 Ddedd Rheoli Traffig Ffydd 1984 (ddiwygiedig), wedi gwneud Gorchymyn y mae ei effaith gyffredinol wedi'i disgrifio yn yr atodlen 1 isod:
2. Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel "Gorchymyn (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro) (Solent Road, Y Barri) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2016".

ATOLDEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw un yn gyrru nac yn caniatáu i unrhyw un arall yrru cerbyd modur yn y fan a nodwyd yn Atolden 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad Solent Road ar ei hyd.
Rheswm Gweithio ar Gynllun Rheoli Perygl Llifogydd Coldbrook.
Cyfnod O 8.00am ar ddydd Llun 25 Ionawr 2016 am 18 mis yn unig. Ryddym yn disgwyl dod i ben â'r gwaith cyn pen 3 mis (os bydd y tywydd yn caniatáu).
Llwybr arall Byddwn yn dargyfeirio traffig drwy Ewbank Close a Solent Road ac ar hyd Dobbins Road drwy agor pennau'r heolydd caeedig hynny dros dro. Gwnawn hynny yn ôl y golyn er mwyn hwylyso'r gwaith arfaethedig.
DS: Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr ar hyd yr amser.

Dyddiedig 14 Ionawr 2016.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenvô. CF5 6AA.



THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (CLIVE ROAD, BARRY ISLAND PART) (ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2015

1. On 17th December 2015 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:

2. The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Clive Road, Barry Island (Part)) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order" 2015.

SCHEDULE 1

1. No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location Clive Road, Barry Island from its junction with the access road that leads into Barry Island car park at grid 311262 166786 and continuing in a north easterly direction for a distance of approximately 50m.
Reason To allow junction improvement works to take place.
Duration From 8.00am on Monday 4th January 2016 for a maximum period of 18 Months. It is anticipated that the works will be concluded by 24th March 2016 (weather permitting).
Alt. Route Diversions for traffic will be available via Plymouth Road, Archer Road, and along the remaining open section of Clive Road.
NB Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times

Dated this 21st day of January 2016.

M. E. Punter,
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.



CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2015 GORCHYMYN (CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) (CLIVE ROAD, YNYS Y BARRI (RHAN YN UNIG))

1. Ar 17 Rhagfyr 2015, yr oedd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 14 Ddedd Rheoli Traffig Ffydd 1984 (ddiwygiedig), wedi gwneud Gorchymyn y mae ei effaith gyffredinol wedi'i disgrifio yn yr atodlen 1 isod:
2. Adwaenir y Gorchymyn fel "Gorchymyn (Cau Ffordd) (Dros Dro) (Clive Road, Ynys Y Barri (Rhan yn Unig)) Cyngor Bro Morgannwg 2015".

ATOLDEN 1

1. Ni fydd unrhyw un yn gyrru nac yn caniatáu i unrhyw un arall yrru cerbyd modur yn y fan a nodwyd yn Atolden 2 isod.

ATOLDEN 2

Lleoliad Clive Road, Ynys Y Barri, o'r gyffordd â'r ffordd fynediad sy'n arwain at faes parcio Ynys Y Barri wrth gyfeirnod 311262 166786, am oddeutu 50 metr i gyfeiriad y gogledd ddwyrain.
Rheswm Gwellu'r gyffordd.
Cyfnod O 8.00am ar ddydd Llun 4 Ionawr 2016 am 18 mis yn unig. Ryddym yn disgwyl cwblhau'r gwaith erbyn 24 Mawrth 2016 (os bydd y tywydd yn caniatáu).
Llwybr arall Byddwn yn dargyfeirio traffig drwy Plymouth Road, Archer Road ac ar hyd y darn o Clive Road sy'n dal ar agor.

DS: Bydd mynediad i gerddwyr ar hyd yr amser.

Dyddiedig 21 Ionawr 2016.

M. E. Punter,
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Gwenvô. CF5 6AA.



The district governor visits Barry Rotarians

District Governor 1150 Chris Williams with Barry president Paul Halstead.
(By past president Robin Pitcher.)

RAMBLERS DODGE THE RAIN ON TWO MUDDY TREKS

AFTER all the incessant heavy downpours (both night and day), Barrie took advantage of the forecast sunshine, leading a group of five walkers from Penarth and District Ramblers on an enjoyable mid-week walk from Cogan Leisure Centre.

After passing through Penarth Marina, they were held up for a short while as the Cardiff Barrage lock gates were open, but soon made it across to Cardiff Bay passing the Pierhead building, the Senedd and along Mermaid Quay to Hamadryad Park, where building is taking place.

Crossing the River Taff via Clarence Road Bridge and following the river upstream on the west bank past the Millennium Stadium, Sophia Gardens and National Cricket Centre, a route through Pontcanna Fields led to Llandaff Cathedral.

Following muddy paths beside Llandaff Weir and rowing club to cross Llandaff Bridge, their route led on to Hailey Park. Arriving at Whitchurch and passing the restored Melingriffith pump, which supplied water to the both the old Glamorgan Canal and the Melingriffith Tin Plate Works, the route continued beside the fast flowing Taff, then across a footbridge to Radyr Station, for the comfortable train journey back to Cogan.

By contrast, nine walkers and leader Rachel enjoyed a trek along muddy footpaths in the glorious Vale of Glamorgan, while keeping the Christmas spirit alive. Having to

abandon all hopes of doing her pre-Christmas annual pilgrimage at Llansannor because of heavy rainfall, many home-baked mince pies were relegated to the freezer to await better weather.

The chance came, but the route was hastily altered to avoid the worst of the mud as they set off from Llantwit Major in light rainfall to make their way down to the coast at Cwm Col-huw.

Then climbing the cliff past the old Iron Age hill fort at Castle Ditches and heading eastwards, a muddy trek along cliff paths led to Summerhouse Point and a stop for a late Christmas feast of warm mince pies and chunks of Christmas cake all washed down with beakers of mulled wine, but best of all in dry weather!

After visiting the somewhat overgrown octagonal-shaped summerhouse built by the Seys family, a track led them back up to Boverton Place and across the fast flowing brook back into Llantwit, as rain began to fall once more.

On January 24, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 9.5-mile moderate walk taking in Rhossili beach and Llanmadoc Hill, then a pub lunch and return via Rhossili Down. Contact the leader the day before if you require a pub lunch on 029 2051 4051.

To follow the group, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

JOY STRANGWARD



ROTARY'S District 1150 Governor Chris Williams from Fishguard was the special guest recently at Barry club's dinner meeting at the Glenbrook Inn, Barry.

He went on to speak of the many projects Rotary are engaged in locally, nationally and internationally and how these projects give members an opportunity to make a difference and

to change lives by helping those less fortunate than others.

Barry president Paul Halstead warmly thanked Chris for a most interesting talk; part of a very busy start to 2016 for the Barry club which later this month hosts the Rotary Youth Speaks and Young Chefs competitions in Bryn Hafren Comprehensive school.

Several members will meet the national president at a special dinner in Cowbridge and plans are now in hand to celebrate St David's Day with a special breakfast in Brynhill Golf Club.

The Rotary Club of Barry also continues to support the Vale Foodbank with monthly donations of food and with the collecting of food at Tesco, Barry.

The Club meets in the Glenbrook Inn on Thursdays, 6pm for 6.30pm. If you would like further information, contact secretary Phil Hunt on 01446 720000, or look online at www.ribi.org.

BREAST TEST SCREENING
THE Breast Test Wales mobile screening unit will be situated at Llantwit Major Rugby Club from February to the end of March.

Women aged between 50 and 70 this year will automatically receive postal invitations to attend for screening, if they are registered with Eryl Surgery.

Women who are aged over 70 will not automatically be invited for breast screening, but can request an appointment by telephoning Breast Test Wales on 029 2039 7222.

Anyone concerned about a breast change should visit their GP without delay.

For more information, contact your GP practice or telephone Breast Test Wales on 029 2039 7222.

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Schoolchildren get active with a winter sports day! Colcot Primary School Healthy Living Week



DURING the autumn term, members of the healthy schools council at Colcot Primary met regularly with their teachers to arrange a calendar of events for the year.

The children wanted more sporting activities and organised a winter sports day. The day was scheduled for Tuesday, January 12 and was led by the children and their ideas. Year-6 members of the Healthy Schools council wrote the following report.

Colcot Primary's Healthy School Council organised a winter sports day for the whole school to enjoy.

Mrs Cule was thrilled by this idea. The teachers chose a variety of sports and fitness activities for the children, focusing mainly on ball skills.

Most children were stunned by the

activities and exercises as they were not expecting them to be so much fun.

The activities included ball games, for example dodgeball, fireball, over and under, side passes, hockey and basketball. All the games they participated in were challenging and helped raise the children's level of fitness.

Mrs Cule (headteacher) said: "I enjoyed watching the children participating in the fun activities and working as a team. The children looked as if they were all having a great time and keeping healthy."

Other activities during our annual Healthy Living week have included whole school exercises every afternoon playtime, making healthy snacks, and dance sessions.

Report by Ashton, David, Laurie, and Jack





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For details visit our website: www.eternitywithlove.co.uk

GROUP OUTING TO THE PANTO

A GROUP of Friends and Neighbours from Barry, started their busy 2016 programme with a visit to New Theatre, Cardiff, to see the *Aladdin* pantomime.

At times, you wondered whether the audience or the cast were having the most fun!

Mike Doyle as Widow Twankey, in his 25th panto performance, provided one of the highlights with his impression of the Shirley Bassey hit, 'My Way.'

The biggest cheer was when former Welsh rugby star, Gareth Thomas appeared as the genie and danced around the stage to the melody 'I am The Genie of the Lamp.'

Transport was provided by Vale Community Transport Services.

Contact 01446 400044 for further information about the group. GF

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Train staff are on track to join Wynne's choir!

AN Arriva Trains Wales employee from Rhosce will feature in a new S4C series presented by renowned Welsh tenor Wynne Evans.

Wynne Evans *Ar Waith* follows Wynne as he travels across the country holding rehearsals to recruit singers for a brand new choir from three of Wales' largest companies, with the aim of uncovering musical talent in the workplace.

After a rigorous audition process Alun Davies, as well as Mark Ball, Elwyn Jones and Nia Jones from Gwynedd and Chris Edwards from Newport, were selected to join the choir, along with staff from Welsh Water and Edwards Coaches.

Alun Davies, a safety champion for Arriva Trains Wales and also a brand ambassador for Arriva Trains UK, said: "It was a great experience to take part in the programme. I've never had singing

lessons, but I do love karaoke so it was a great opportunity to be taught by one of the world's best tenors and improve my singing skills.

"I've just started a new job at Arriva as a safety champion and thought the show would be a great place for me to demonstrate to Wynne and the other companies taking part all the work we do behind the scenes to make people's journeys safer.

"It's been a very challenging experience but one I've enjoyed immensely. I've met lots of fantastic people and been able to travel across Wales.

"Arriva have been brilliant in providing encouragement and support throughout the whole programme and providing us with the opportunity to take part."

During the series Wynne joined the Arriva Trains Wales staff on their shifts and also gathered the choir for master classes where they took part in singing lessons and special challenges.

He said: "Some

people, like Alun, had never sung before and others had only a little experience. All I really wanted to do was give them a love for singing. I hope the experience inspires some of the staff to continue to sing and perform in the future.

"I had a great time joining the Arriva Trains Wales team for a couple of days and learning the ins and outs of their jobs."

As part of the series, the choir recorded and released a charity song to raise money for Tenovus Cancer Care.

'Cân Heb Ei Chanu,' composed by Robat Arwyn, with lyrics written by Hywel Gwynfryn was released as S4C's charity single of the week. The choir performed the song on stage with Wynne at a concert held by 'the Fron' male voice choir in Newtown and had the song played on Radio Wales' *Eleri Sion* show.

Arriva Trains Wales featured in the second episode of 'Wynne Evans *Ar Waith*' last night (Wednesday) on S4C.



Alun Davies, one of the successful singers.

GOLDEN LION ROARS TO THE TITLE, AGAIN!

THE Golden Lion in Penarth, which was recently announced as CAMRA's 'Pub of the Year for the second year running, has been congratulated by regional AM Andrew R T Davies.

The Campaign for Real Ale Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend members voted for a "genuine pub, with layout and design that just makes it great to drink there."

Mr Davies was given a tour of the pub by owner Jon Bassett and landlord Paul Harper and said he was "thoroughly impressed".



Theo Andrew RT Davies is pictured at the Golden Lion with owner, Jon Bassett.

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Local Cubs and Scouts have double cause to celebrate

THE year 1916 saw the first Cub-Scout groups being formed and this year Cubs are celebrating their centenary with exciting events.

During the first week back, 1st Penmark with Porthkerry Cubs talked about differences between 1916 Cubs and 2016 Cubs.

They looked at different uniforms worn, and learned why they start meetings with grand howl.

They practised walking with books on their heads, looked at identifying trees and insects, learned how the Union Jack flag is made up and practised lighting candles and tying reef knots.

The Cub sixers and seconders also took part in a district event at the weekend, learning leadership skills and working as part of a team, skills they need to lead their groups.

Beavers looked at some practical skills, including tying laces, rolling kneekers, stuffing sleeping bags, lighting candles, and washing up. Beavers are also celebrating their 30th birthday this year.

As there are two celebrations, 1st Penmark with Porthkerry Scout group are holding a thank you party on March 2 at Penkerry, and they would like to invite all former leaders and adults who have helped out with Beavers and Cubs over the years at 1st Penmark with Porthkerry.

Please get in touch, so the group can ensure it does not miss anyone.

Scouts are working towards a fitness badge and spent their first week back looking at healthy food and doing some exercise.

To get in touch with the group, email the group Scout leader on Gsl@penmarkscouts.org.uk

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Mystery of what happened to Danilo has been solved...now grandson plans visit to Wales

A young Serbian man is hoping to travel in the footsteps of his grandfather to Wales – in the hope of visiting Pontypridd where his grandfather spent the final years of his life.

In October 2014, The GEM told the story of Slobodan Erdeljan (25) who was appealing to the people of south Wales to help him find out what had happened to his long lost grandfather, who fled a civil conflict many years earlier.

Slobodan's grandfather, Danilo Ljubenko, had travelled to London and then on to Wales during the Second World War.

When The GEM originally publicised Slobodan's appeal, he explained: "My grandfather escaped to London from Belgrade when World War Two started and after that the family lost contact with him."

"The family received a letter, and the address on the envelope referred to a street in south Wales – Howell Street in Pontypridd."

Over the years, the family received infrequent letters from Pontypridd – and then they stopped. Slobodan suspected, but could not be certain, that his grandfather had died.

He appealed in The GEM for information and has received responses from people who knew his grandfather.

One said that Mr Ljubenko was "a very gentle person, a lovely man" and known in Pontypridd as 'Danny'. Danilo died in 1985 from an industrial disease after working as a miner. Slobodan thinks Danilo he had stayed in a hostel when he first arrived in south Wales and later lived as a tenant with Betty and Eric Jones at Howell Street, Cilfynydd, Pontypridd.

Danilo Ljubenko was born on September 12, 1924, in Orašje, which is in the north east of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Slobodan explained: "Back then – and until 1929 – it was called the Kingdom of Serbs,

by TIM CHAPMAN

Croats and Slovenes. Then the name was changed to Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Although Orašje is in today's Bosnia and Herzegovina, Danilo was Serb by nationality."

Slobodan said his grandfather's sudden departure and the silence that followed it caused the family great anguish.

"My parents, but especially my grandmother, always wondered what happened to him. The thing is we've always been quite a modest family so we were

never in a position to investigate or research what became of him, and where he might be. He escaped from Belgrade at the time of the Second World War.

"The reason was possibly because during that period, in the former Yugoslavia, there were two sides: chetniks, who were for the king, and partisans, the communists.

"My grandfather was for the king, and since at the time it wasn't safe, he escaped, and they were doing many things that he did not want to be a part of.

"His departure was quite sudden. He was working in a small workshop, and my grandmother was

working in a factory. Danilo went in to say goodbye to my grandmother, hugged her, and didn't say much – just that he had to leave.

"Then he borrowed a horse and cart from his boss and headed for the border. When he got there he paid a guy to take it all the way back.

"I don't think he stayed too long in London. The oldest letter that we have was sent from Wales in 1960."

Slobodan is now

planning to travel to south Wales and has set up a fundraising page, hoping people might help him. So far it has raised £70.

He said: "My grandmother, who is not in great health is 90 years old, and hopes I can make the journey to Wales and visit his grave, and research a bit about his life there."

His fundraising link for people who would like to help is: <https://fundrazr.com/campaigns/d14k7a/ab/03/hql6>



ABOVE:
Danilo Ljubenko.



Slobodan hopes to pay his respects, on behalf of his family, at Mr Ljubenko's grave.

ROADWORKS ROUND-UP

ROADWORKS: Port Road and Plymouth Road; Main Road, junction of Barry Docks Link Road to the entrance of the Crematorium;

Trinity Street, Barry; Junction 34 Miskin interchange; A4055 Port Road, from its junction with Culverhouse Cross to its junction with Nant Isaf, Wenvoe.

Temporary traffic control: A4055 Harbour Road, Barry (the Causeway); Paget Road, Barry Island, at its junction with Clive

Road closure: Dyffryn Village from the junction of St Lythans Road outside Home Farm to the junction of Dyffryn Lane (Phase 1); Clive Road, Barry Island, at the junction with the access road to Barry Island overflow car park; Pen-y-Lan near Llansannor; Murch Road, Dinas Powys; Solent Road, Barry (from January 25).

PACT meetings

CADOC PACT at Waitrose, Palmerston Road Barry on Thursday, January 21 between 11am and 1pm.

RHOOSE coffee and chat at the Blue Anchor, East Aberhaw, on Tuesday, January 26 at 11am.

GIBBONS DOWN PACT at The Residents' Board Office, Coychurch Rise, Barry, on Thursday, January 28 at 10am.

COWBRIDGE PACT will be held at Cowbridge Fire Station, Druids Green, on Monday, February 1 at 11am.

ST AUGUSTINES PACT at The Tabernacle, Plassey Street, Penarth, on Monday, February 1 at 7pm.

Flu on the rise – warning

HEALTH officials are urging the public to do all they can to protect themselves and stop the spread of flu, as recent figures show cases of the illness are rising in Wales.

Visits to GPs, hospital admissions and admissions to intensive care units of confirmed cases of influenza (flu) have all increased across Wales in the last few weeks. The most recent figures (as of first week of January 2016) show that 51 patients have been confirmed to have flu since October 2015, when the first case was

diagnosed, and nine of these cases have been admitted to intensive care units in Wales.

Over 2,400 people have also visited their GP with flu like symptoms in Wales already this winter. All age-groups have been affected, although young children, the elderly and adults with chronic conditions are particularly vulnerable.

Public Health Wales is urging those in 'at risk' groups that it's not too late to get their free flu vaccine to protect themselves against the illness, and for all those with symptoms to take measures to prevent the spread of flu.

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Local TV couple have a tough decision to make about school!

by PHILIP IRWIN



Lucy with Jamie Roberts in Cambridge University.



Lucy with her son Gabriel.

THE BBC TV presenter Lucy Owen will be fronting a programme next Monday (January 25, 8.30pm, BBC 1 Wales) that tackles a modern Welsh education dilemma.

She and her husband Rhodri live in Cowbridge and will have to decide in two years whether their son Gabriel should go to a Welsh or English-medium secondary school.

It's a dilemma familiar to parents across Wales but it's dividing Lucy and her Welsh-speaking husband Rhodri like never before.

Neither anticipated how passionate they'd feel about the choice they need to make.

Their son Gabriel is thriving at a Welsh-medium primary and Dad's keen for him to carry on learning in Welsh.

But Lucy, who's really struggled to learn the language over the years, fears that sending her son to a Welsh-medium secondary school will mean she won't be able to support him or be involved in his education.

Lucy told The GEM: "I grew up in Dinas Powys and Welsh wasn't a big part of my life, while Rhodri spoke it at home.

"Sending Gabriel to a Welsh-medium primary school was a given, but we had never spoken about secondary school, and we were both surprised how we felt about it.

"For Rhodri, it was a case of 'Everything's going well, why change?' but I felt that I wouldn't be able to help Gabriel with his education as he moved through secondary school."

The particular schools that Rhodri and Lucy will have to choose between are not featured in the programme. Lucy's enquiries look at the issue in general, and she speaks to

people who have been through it and made their own decisions.

Lucy said: "I spoke to two non Welsh-speaking parents whose children had attended Welsh-medium primary and secondary schools, and to a Welsh-speaking parent who preferred that his children should study at an English school."

Another concern of Lucy's was about university – how Welsh medium pupils cope when they have to start studying and writing in English.

Also, did universities regard Welsh-medium pupils as highly as those who had studied in English?

Researching this issue led her to travel to Queen's College, Cambridge, to seek the advice of Welsh rugby international Jamie Roberts, who went to a Cardiff Welsh medium secondary school and then had to do all his medical training in English.

Welsh or English? Lucy Owen's Big School Dilemma is part of BBC Wales's How Wales Works season.

Her research also moves into the scientific sphere, as a cognitive neuro-scientist talks about what happens to the brain when it learns two or more languages.

Lucy concluded: "I think this programme covers a great deal of ground and I ended up speaking to different people who made different decisions.

"It was quite a personal journey for me, and then I came home to report back to Rhodri."

Did they come to a decision?

Viewers will have to wait for the programme to go out, but Gabriel is eight years old, so there could be three more years of debate ahead for Lucy and Rhodri!"

'No public meeting on council merger' – SAYS THE PUBLIC SERVICES MINISTER

CONSERVATIVES in the Vale want the Assembly's Public Services Minister, Leighton Andrews, to come to a public meeting to talk about the plans to merge the Vale Council with Cardiff City Council, writes PHILIP IRWIN.

The Conservatives have already made it plain that they intend to make this an election issue. Their Assembly candidate, Ross England, has said that he wants to spearhead a 'Save the Vale' campaign.

However, when Andrew RT Davies AM, the Leader of the Conservatives in The Senedd, asked Leighton Andrews if he would engage in a public meeting to listen to the views of Vale residents first hand, the Public Services Minister declined.

Mr Davies said: "I am hugely disappointed by the Public Services Minister's refusal to meet with residents across Barry and the Vale who are rightly concerned that Welsh Labour's plans will see the area swallowed up by Cardiff Council.

"Communities across the Vale of Glamorgan are incredibly proud of the area and it is nothing short

of appalling that a Labour Minister is intent on bullying through proposals without any engagement with local people. This is not what government should be about.

"Equally worrying is Cardiff Council's record of delivery, which has lacked leadership and been nothing short of appalling in recent times.

"The Welsh Conservatives have been steadfast in our opposition to this absurd idea – we will fight to save the Vale – and next May will be a straight decision between Welsh Labour's plan to abolish it or our proposal to protect the Vale of Glamorgan."

A spokesman for the Public Services Minister said: "As the Minister made clear in the

Assembly, he has already had many discussions with Coun Neil Moore, the leader of the Vale Council and he's very pleased that we have a Labour administration in the Vale.

"Should any public meeting on the subject take place in Barry it is important that the Tories come clean on their promised cuts to the local government budget – and the impact on people's services and council tax.

"A 12 per cent cut to local government, as promised by the Tories, would slash £18million from the Vale Council budget this year alone, erasing all non-statutory services and causing mass redundancies.

Alternatively, the gap could be plugged with a 38 per cent increase in council tax bills."

Festival's boost

NEWYDD Housing has added its support for the Vale Jazz Festival due to take place in and around Barry between May 20-22.

It will sponsor one of the 20 acts taking part at 12 venues, including Marco's, Park Pub and the West End club.

Coun Richard Bertin, who is on the organising committee, said: "We are pleased to announce that Newydd Housing will be sponsoring our event again this year. We are extremely grateful for their kind support."

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DANCE SCHOOL STEPS INTO INTERNATIONAL SPOTLIGHT



ABOVE:
The Sarah Burnell School of Dance has had a successful start to the new year.

THE Sarah Burnell School of Dance has had an extremely successful start to the year, with nearly 31 students have been selected to represent Team Wales at the Dance World Cup finals in Jersey in June.

This event is the biggest international dance competition in the world of its kind, with over 38 countries competing including

South Africa, Australia and China.

About 18,000 competitors enter at qualifying stages, with only 2,500 being selected for the actual Dance World Cup finals.

The dance school is based in the Pencoed area and regularly competes at national level. As this was its debut at international level it is a huge achievement. The dancers, aged between 10 – 19 have qualified in jazz, modern, tap,

contemporary and musical theatre genres as soloists – as part of duets, trios and also large groups.

The competition runs from June 25 – July 2 at the Regent Centre, St Helier and commences with an Olympic-style opening ceremony, where all the countries come together to celebrate.

Cerian Jordan (13) from Pencoed has been selected as the Welsh flag bearer for the parade, along with 12-year-old Welsh team mascot, Tom Herbert, from Porthcawl.

This talented group of young performers is keen to attract sponsors who are willing to support them in their quest to promote south Wales on the international dance scene.

If anyone is interested in helping the group to raise funds to aid their exciting venture, email sarahb79@hotmail.co.uk.

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Airport appoints new commercial director

RIGHT: Spencer Birns, Cardiff Airport's new commercial director.

CARDIFF Airport has appointed **Spencer Birns**, as commercial director, to lead its aero and non-aeronautical business development.

It follows Debra Barber having been confirmed as managing director and chief operating officer.

Mr Birns joined the airport in 2006 to manage all airline and



tour operator relationships, and has played a vital role in the transformation of Wales' national airport, which in 2015 saw a 13

per cent increase in passenger numbers. Prior to working in Rhose, he spent three years at Manchester Airport working on commercial aviation development activities and worked for nine years in various roles at the My Travel Group in tour operations.

He is a specialist in airline and tour operator relationships with the remit of promoting Wales on the global stage.

He recently worked with key airline partners such as Flybe and Vueling on their growth at Cardiff Airport.

Croeso! African Children's Choir welcomed to Wales

RIGHT: Jane Hutt AM with Special Nabisubi, Robinah and Emily Gronow, tour leader.

AHEAD of their concert at St David's Hall, the African Children's Choir was welcomed to the National Assembly by Jane Hutt, AM for the Vale.

"The choir sang brilliantly in St David's Hall, with 1,700 attending – including primary schools from Barry and boy drummers from Barry Comprehensive School," she reported.

"I invited them for lunch at the Pierhead building earlier in the day to welcome them to Wales and thanked Barry volunteer tour leader Emily Gronow, who has accompanied them on their world tour over the past year."

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Drainage issue is identified

LAST week, The GEM reported that local people had been concerned at the state of Cemetery Lane in Barry, which had a mini-stream and mud flowing down during the period of heavy rain.

The GEM asked the Vale Council whether it was concerned about any overflow from the White Farm development.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member responsible for visible services, explained: "The majority of the surface water drainage from the White Farm development discharges into the Coldbrook watercourse to the north of the site as part of a drainage strategy previously agreed by the Vale of Glamorgan Council. This followed a consultation with

Natural Resources Wales and independent engineering consultants.

"Council officers have inspected Cemetery Lane this week and have found that the incomplete cycleway may be the cause of temporary drainage issues."

"Once completed, the water from the cycleway will drain into the surrounding grassed areas, where the grass is at present yet to establish itself."

"In addition to this, the existing highway drainage system on Merthyr Dyfan Lane is soon to be upgraded, as part of the Coldbrook Catchment Flood Risk Management Scheme, on which construction began earlier this month."

"Any further flooding in this area, particularly once the works are completed, should be reported to the council so it can be investigated

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The First Step to a Better Smile

Tories and the Welsh Government in a ding-dong over the hospital waiting lists

A Conservative claim that the high numbers of people waiting for medical treatment in the Vale and Cardiff is a "national disgrace" has been countered by the Welsh Government, which revealed that the numbers of people being treated are going up and more funds are being pumped into the NHS.

A total of 82,555 are currently on the waiting list with Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. And nationally 438,957 people are on a waiting list of some description.

The Conservatives point out that when Carwyn Jones became Labour's First Minister in 2009, the figure stood at a little over 200,000.

Andrew RT Davies AM, Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, claimed Mr Jones was failing to acknowledge the problem:

"Labour's performance on waiting times remains a national disgrace and the people who are suffering are patients across the

by GEM
REPORTER

Vale. Patients and their relatives will rightly question when things are going to improve and why Labour's First Minister refuses to acknowledge the problem.

"No-one should be waiting more than nine months for a hospital appointment and these delays can result in much poorer patient outcomes and harm."

He said the Labour Party had "starved frontline health services of one billion pounds and it's hardworking staff who've taken the brunt."

TARGET TIME

However, a Welsh Government spokesman emphasised that the figures quoted did not tell the whole story – and part of it was that demands on the system were increasing.

"Despite record-breaking cuts to the Welsh budget by the UK Government, we are investing more than ever before in the Welsh NHS – we have given the NHS an extra £1.1bn of cash support over the last two years alone and next year the health and social services budget will

reach £7bn a year. Over the last five years, more and more people are being referred by GPs for treatment in the NHS. Despite this, the vast majority of people are seen within target time. This is not a 'national disgrace', but a testament to the hard work and dedication of our NHS staff in providing the highest quality care.

"There has been an improvement in the number of people waiting less than 26 weeks for the start of their treatment in November compared to October. There were also fewer people waiting more than 36 weeks to start treatment during this period.

"We expect health boards to continue improving performance and ensure everyone is treated in a timely manner, based on clinical need."

The spokesman added: "We have set up a clinician-led planned care programme to transform the way services are planned and delivered for key specialties."

"This will improve patient experience by making sure people are seen in the right setting, at the right time, and by the right health professional."

GEM READERS' LETTERS EXTRA...

'The REAL dangers that women face'

ONCE again, we find councillors wasting time and resources – this time it's Coun Lis Burnett wasting CCTV operators' time trying to find out who committed such a heinous crime as to place a post-it note on her windscreen. (GEM report last week).

This ridiculous overreaction is matched only by the ridiculous defence put up by Couns Lis Burnett and Chris Elmore on

socialmedia. She claimed she felt at risk, risk of what? Glue smears on her windscreen? A paper cut perhaps?

Both claim that any member of the public can gain access to CCTV footage, but I find that hard to believe for such a frivolous reason as to find out who placed a Post-it note on her windscreen.

Given the amount of paperwork and supporting documents you need to provide to get a resident's parking permit, I imagine access would be very difficult and comes with a fee.

I asked Coun Chris

Elmore for details of whom to contact on the social media discussion, so I could view the footage and understand how in broad daylight, on a main shopping street, Coun Burnett could feel she was at risk, but he declined to further comment.

Coun Burnett went on to try and draw parallels to this incident with lone working and even the murder of Suzy Lamplugh, which I found disgusting. She might want to walk the streets of Barry alone at night, as many women do who work unsociable hours, which have been made even more

dangerous by the council's penny-pinching exercise of turning off our street lighting.

Many women have to pass streets where drug taking and drinking are rife and the police seemingly turn a blind eye to it. Just before Christmas, a group of girls had to run up the street away from youths brandishing knives, fighting in the lanes behind Holton Road.

A 999 call was placed, but nobody attended, so a neighbour and I waited in the street until the girls felt safe to leave.

The latest incident was once again nothing more than councillors trying to play silly political games, wasting time and resources. At a time when more and more services are being cut, our councillors should be working harder, not operating a "pay more, get less" scheme.

Kevin Watts,
Barry.

Rhoose History Society talk

THE Rhoose and District History Society invites everyone to a talk by Brian Davies on 'John Nixon and Cardiff's coal trade to France' on Friday, January 29 at 7.30pm in the rear hall of Rhoose Community Centre, Stewart Road.

Tickets £1 adults, 50p children (under 16), available on the door.

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LOOKING BACK... AT SOME OF THE GEM's MOST NOTABLE REPORTS OF LAST YEAR



BRYN MERRICK.

(Image courtesy of Andy Johnson)

'Loved, adored, a rebel, a gentleman' Saying a fond farewell to Bryn of The Damned



Bryn in action with The Shamones.
(Image courtesy of Andy Johnson)

BRYN MERRICK, who was born in Barry and became the bass player with legendary punk band The Damned, died at Llandough Hospital on Saturday, September 12, following a battle against cancer.

Bass player Bryn (56) became a member of *The Damned* in 1983, but made his name with a local Welsh punk band called *Victimize*.

Bryn's close friend, Andy Johnson, announced the sad news of his death on Facebook on Saturday, and earlier this week spoke to The Glamorgan GEM of his fond memories of Bryn.

"On behalf of his daughter, Ella, and his sons, Richard and Christian, it is with so much sadness that I announce that my best friend, Bryn Merrick, passed away, peacefully, this morning, after a long battle with cancer at Llandough Hospital near Cardiff.

"He was loved and adored by everyone who met him. He was a true rebel and lived life in the fast lane. If you made friends with him, it was for life. He hadn't a bad bone in his body.

"Everyone who knew him, knew of his crazy character and there will be plenty of stories to tell in the coming weeks and months.

"But, when all is said and done, he was just a 'great bloke'. He adored his daughter, Ella, who he kept in touch with, despite the thousands of miles between them, and I know Ella truly thought of him as her hero, which he was!"

Andy continued: "He recently spent time with Richard, his son, which will have given him great comfort and peace.

"As for me, there will be a massive hole in my life. I've known Bryn since I was 10 years old and we've laughed,

by TIM CHAPMAN

argued, fought, got drunk, got stoned, made music, and done many crazy things together but always remained true friends.

"On behalf of Ella, Richard and Christian, and all those close to Bryn, I would like to say Goodnight, God bless to a true gentleman. Rest in peace."

Andy explained that he first met a young Bryn in an unusual way.

"He gate-crashed my 10th birthday party! He'd brought me a plastic sports car so he was forgiven instantly."

The two lads became firm friends.

"Bryn was a year older than me. He lived with his parents on Barry Road, but joined us playing up on the Buttrills Estate.

"Musically, he liked Bowie and I liked Slade, but we both got into *Hawkwind*, *Led Zeppelin*, *Deep Purple* and *Black Sabbath*.

"He bought a 'violin bass' off my brother Tony and I bought a jumbo acoustic guitar. We used to play in the bedroom and out in the garden."

Their introduction to punk came courtesy of a friend, Steve Alexander, who had been tuning in to John Peel and told them "Listen to this!" It was "Hanging Around" by *The Stranglers*.

Along with Andy

James on vocals and Mike Rudman on drums, Bryn and Andy formed *Victimize*.

Bryn joined *The Damned* in 1983 and was part of the band's most successful album 'Phantasmagoria' released in 1985. He also played with the *Phantom Chords*.

Andy recalled: "He returned to live in Cardiff with his wife and daughter in around 1991. We met up and founded *Bug* - writing our own stuff, lots of his ideas came to the fore. We went on to do local and national gigs."

For a while, quite naturally, family life took precedence in their lives, but fate had another surprise in store.

"In 2010, we had a chance meeting at Barry Island. I said: 'Hey, you need to play again'."

And they did! They had always loved the New York punk band *The Ramones* and formed a tribute band *The Shamones* along with Andy's brother Dave on drums.

"We played at festivals across the country for five years. A lot of *Damned* fans would come along to see us. People would turn up with albums for Bryn to sign."

Andy is thankful that he was able to visit Bryn for a final time. "I was lucky enough to see him. It is devastating."

He said his thoughts were with Ella, Richard, Christian and the rest of Bryn's family.

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NO matter how big or small, I am backing business in the Vale of Glamorgan – I want to see them all go from strength-to-strength.

The well-established and credible Wales Top 300 companies publication is a fantastic gauge of the Welsh economy, and I am delighted to see it features a number of companies based in the Vale of Glamorgan in its most recent publication.

For the future prosperity of our area, in addition to start-up businesses, we need established companies to base themselves in the Vale, to continue their growth – employing more people and supporting the local economy.

I was delighted to see that Barry-based Dow Corning maintained a presence in the top 10 companies in Wales. The company is an integral part of the fabric of Barry.

Hundreds of local residents are gainfully employed on Cardiff Road, with many having done so for many years; and I am pleased that employee levels on the site continue to grow, with over 600 people helping the international company achieve its aims.

I know so many people who work, or who have family or friends employed, on the 160-acre site – it is a genuine success story for Barry.

Indeed, I met a Barry resident just before Christmas



Vale MP
ALUN CAIRNS
reports to our
GEM readers

who had festive decorations on her wall, given to her family from the Dow Corning site over 50 years ago.

The company has often pledged support for local community projects and I feel proud to have such a major employer with such deep-seated roots in Barry. My ongoing aim is to attract more major employers to our area. Without question, the biggest challenge is providing major businesses with an incentive to establish a base locally.

We simply don't have the significant availability of suitable sites for a headquarters employing, say, 300 people or a call centre, for example. I am hopeful that this can change.

The tourism profile of Barry is ever improving, but I want the business profile to receive

the same attention – incentivise business to come and open a base locally. The work we have done to reinvigorate Barry Island continues unabated, but is being held back by unacceptable delays in the completion of the much-delayed Island link road. This road was much trumpeted by the local authority a couple of years ago, but is still unfinished.

Another success story featured in the Wales Top 300 companies is Harris Pye, a business employing several hundred highly skilled professionals. I have been fortunate to get to know the company well and the work they undertake around the globe is world class. That is the key to their continued success.

In Rhose, the British Airways maintenance centre has shown significant commitment to the area in ensuring that the next generation of aircraft will be maintained locally. Between these three operations, around 2,000 highly skilled people are employed in the Vale. I want to attract more companies to the Vale to enjoy the quality of life we enjoy, and reach an active and talented workforce.

We need to develop a vision that attracts more major employers. Established companies, small innovative start-ups and independent businesses are the perfect ingredients for a thriving economy in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Council aims to save £100,000 with car 'pool'

THE Vale Council says it expects to save in excess of £100,000 in the next 12 months, following 'an innovative pool car' scheme piloted last year.

A spokesperson explained that many council staff, such as social workers, are required to drive from place to place as part of their everyday work. In April 2015, the council had introduced a new scheme that saw these staff using communal 'pool cars' rather than travelling in their own vehicles and being subsequently reimbursed for their mileage costs.

The new cars were central to a wider scheme to reduce the cost of employee transport. Since the scheme began in April last year the cars had covered more than 169,000 miles and costs cut by nearly £65,000.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member for visible services, said this week: "As so many of our staff were previously required to use their own vehicles in the course of their work, we recognised that a corporate pool car scheme could deliver substantial financial savings by cutting mileage claims."

"I am delighted by the success of the trial and to be able to highlight yet another way in which the Vale Council is finding new ways of working to help address the unprecedented financial challenges that we face."

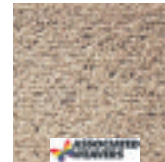
The trial saw the use of 40 cars which were hired on a short term basis. However, in light of its success, the council purchased its own vehicles via a government auction scheme. As this reduces the cost of the cars, the move is expected to save an additional £6,000 per month and take the projected saving for the project's first year to in excess of £100,000.

The new cars will be located at the four main council sites. To help protect council staff, monitor use of the vehicles, and ensure maximum efficiency the cars will be fitted with the Council's vehicle telemetry system, which tracks their movements and monitors the way in which they are driven.

AM's surgery
VALE of Glamorgan
AM Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery on Friday, January 22 from 4pm – 5pm at Dinas Powys Lee Hall, Britway Road. No appointment necessary.

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WALES UNDER-20 HOPEFULS HAVE QUALITY POTENTIAL

WALES under-20 head coach Jason Strange has named a strong 31-man squad for the forthcoming Six Nations tournament.

Twelve players gained Wales under-20 caps last season, while five players have featured for their professional regions in the Guinness Pro 12 and in Europe this season.

Captain Tom Phillips, Blues prop Dillon Lewis, Scarlets outside half Dan Jones, Blues outside half Jarrod Evans and Ospreys centre Owen Watkin have all featured in the Guinness Pro 12 this season, while Phillips and Lewis have also featured for their Regions in Europe and other squad members have represented their Regional Premiership Select XV's in the British & Irish Cup.

Strange, who was named Wales under-20 head coach at the start of the season, said: "We are genuinely enthused by the potential quality in the squad, and excited at the prospect of competing in the Six Nations, which is such a competitive tournament and a great opportunity for players to showcase their skills."

"Our targets, primarily, are to play a style of rugby which is enjoyable to play and watch, and will benefit player development."

"Secondly, we want to ensure we help players to maximise their potential by creating a high quality environment which embodies the values and behaviours we identify with as a group."

"We feel if we do that, we will not only produce quality players but rounded individuals. Victories are important, but a bigger agenda is to prepare players for the professional game by exposing them to international rugby."

"For us, Tom Phillips was an obvious choice as captain, he is someone who leads by example both on and off the pitch."

Wales travel to Dublin to play Ireland



Team captain Tom Phillips.

at Donnybrook on Friday, February 5 (7.35pm), before welcoming Scotland to Eirias on Friday, February 12 (6.30pm) and then France on Saturday, February 27 (7.45pm).

Strange, whose assistant coaches are Geraint Lewis, Chris Horsman and Richard Hodges, added: "We know playing Ireland away will be a tough challenge, but as a result of teams changing so much from one season to the next at this age, we will be focussing on our own game and ensuring we are well prepared."

"We get a huge boost from the crowd and the welcome we receive at Parc Eirias and we will be looking forward to returning there for the following two games against Scotland and France, and for the final game against Italy after playing England in Bristol."

"We will look to expose as many players as possible to this level of rugby during the Six Nations tournament, with one eye firmly fixed on the World Rugby

under-20 Championship in England in June.

"There are a number of players ruled out through injury at the moment who could bolster the squad for that tournament."

Wales under-20 Six Nations squad:

Forwards: Tom Phillips (captain, Scarlets), Rhys Fawcett (Scarlets), Corey Domachowski (Blues), Leon Brown (Dragons), Kieron Assiratti (Blues), Dillon Lewis (Blues), Dafydd Hughes (Scarlets), Ifan Phillips (Scarlets), Tim Grey (RGC 1404), Adam Beard (Ospreys), Bryce Morgan (Dragons), Shane Lewis-Hughes (Blues), Shaun Evans (Scarlets), Harrison Keddie (Dragons), Morgan Sieniawski (Blues)

Backs: Declan Smith (Scarlets), Cameron Davies (RGC 1404), Daniel Jones (Scarlets), Billy McBryde (Scarlets), Jarrod Evans (Blues), Owen Watkin (Ospreys), Kieran Williams (Ospreys), Joe Thomas (Ospreys), Barney Nightingale (Dragons), Harri Millard (Blues), Elis-Wyn Benham (Blues), Tom Williams (Ospreys), George Gasson (Dragons), Keelan Giles (Ospreys), Rhun Williams (RGC 1404), Joe Gage (Ospreys)

Wales Under Six Nations fixtures:

Ireland U20 v Wales Friday, February 5, Donnybrook (7.35pm)

Wales U20 v Scotland Friday, February 12, Parc Eirias (6.30pm, S4C)

Wales U20 v France Saturday, February 27, Parc Eirias (7.45pm, S4C)

England U20 v Wales Friday, March 11, Ashton Gate (7.45pm)

Wales U20 v Italy Friday March 18, Parc Eirias (7.05pm, BBC Wales)

Wales U20 home Six Nations tickets are available from: Venue Cymru: www.venuecymru.co.uk, over the counter at their Llandudno box office or by calling the box office on 01492 872000. WRU: www.wru.wales/tickets or by calling WRU ticket line on 0844 847 1881

Expert guide unlocks snowdrop secrets...

SNOWDROPS are the centre of attention for a special weekend devoted to these delicate harbingers of spring at the National Botanic Garden of Wales on January 30 - 31.

Galanthophile and horticulture expert Naomi Slade will be the special guide for this two-day celebration and will lead people on a tour of the garden's snowdrop hotspots.

She will also give a talk on growing and caring for your own plants and will be signing copies of her book, The Plant Lover's Guide to Snowdrops.

A self-led trail around the various snowdrop highlights is also available to visitors in the run-up to the weekend event, as well as on the 30th and 31st.

There will also be family activities that weekend, with snowdrop-related crafts, fun and games for children and families.

Admission to the garden over Snowdrop Weekend is just £3 per person. Entry to the garden Monday to Friday in January is free.

Entry is free for garden members and parking is free for all.

The garden is open 10am - 4.30pm and last entry is at 3.30pm.

For more information about this or other events, call 01558 667149 or email info@gardenofwales.org.uk or info@gardenofwales.org.uk

Arbenigwr yn Datgelu Cyfrinachau'r Eirlys

BYDD eirlysiau yn dwyn y sylw i gyd ar benwythnos arbennig sydd yn canolbwyntio ar y blodyn pert,

meindlws hwn sy'n gennad i'r Gwanwyn - i'w gynnal yng Ngardd Fotaneg Genedlaethol Cymru Ionawr 30 - 31.

Bydd yr arbenigwraig garddwriaethol ac edmygwyr o'r blodyn galanthus hwn, Naomi Slade, yn arwain y dathliad dau ddiwrnod, ac yn ein tywys ar daith o amgylch prif leoliadau'r eirlysiau yn yr Ardd.

Bydd hi hefyd yn rhoi sgwrs ar dyfu a gofalu am eich planhigion eich hun, ac yn llofnodi copïau o'i llyfr, The Plant Lover's Guide to Snowdrops.

Mae llwybr hunan-arweiniol o amgylch y prif leoliadau hyn hefyd ar gael ar gyfer ymwelwyr yn y cyfnod sy'n arwain at y digwyddiad penwythnosol hwn, ac hefyd ar y 30fed a'r 31ain.

Bydd gweithgareddau teuluol hefyd ar gael yn ystod y penwythnos, gyda llawer o grefftau'n ymwneud â'r eirlys, a hwyf a gemau i blant a'u teuluoedd.

Mae'r tâl mynediad i'r Penwythnos Eirlysiau yn £3 y person yn unig. Mae mynediad am ddim i'r Ardd o Ddydd Llun i Ddydd Gwener yn ystod mis Ionawr.

Mae mynediad am ddim i aelodau'r Ardd, ac mae parcio am ddim i bawb.

Mae'r Ardd ar agor o 10yb hyd at 4.30yp, gyda'r mynediad olaf am 3.30yp.

Am fwy o wybodaeth am hwn a digwyddiadau eraill, galwch 01558 667149 neu e-bostiwch info@gardenofwales.org.uk or info@gardenofwales.org.uk

RAISING THE ROOF TO UPGRADE CONSERVATORIES

Once the preserve of the wealthy who wanted to cultivate exotic species of flora, today it's estimated that around one in five UK homes have a conservatory.

Offering additional light, with relatively fast construction times, up to 200,000 conservatories were built per year during the height of their popularity.

However, some homeowners found that the full glare of the sun in summer and chilly temperatures in winter made older conservatories uncomfortable, with the only solution being a costly rebuild.

The good news is that building technology has moved on and, as with glazing, there are some thermally efficient roof options now on the market that can be added to the existing conservatory structure.

'Activ' Glass roof

A straightforward upgrade for those who want to keep an uninterrupted view of the blue skies up above is to opt for a modern, low emissivity (low-e) 'Activ', energy efficient glass roof.

Helping to reduce the variations in temperature associated with older, traditional glass or polycarbonate roofs, 'Activ' low-e glass helps cut solar glare, protect furniture from fading and keep heat in during the winter months.

For even greater insulation there are now two solid roof options that can be retrofitted to an existing conservatory, without the need for significant structural modifications.

Tiled roof

The new, lightweight, tiled roof takes its design cues from the slates and tiles found on most UK houses. As a result it works well on most properties and comes in a range of finishes to match any existing architecture.

Created using aluminium panels, with Kingspan insulation, these roofs can achieve a u value of just 0.18, similar to that of a normally constructed, modern roof.

With this option, the interior of the conservatory



can include a glazed ceiling with down-lighters or even roof windows to keep the view of the stars.

LivingRoof

For a more contemporary feel, there is a third option called the LivingRoof. This modern roof combines the sleek lines of a glass roof with the shade and thermal efficiency of a solid conservatory roof to create something that looks and feels very contemporary.

With the LivingRoof, entire panels can be replaced with glass to create a hybrid solid and glass roof meaning the homeowner can choose where to have shaded areas and where to have more light.

Once again there is the option to plaster the interior ceiling and add down-lighters. The LivingRoof also comes with the option of adding orangery detailing to enhance the interior and exterior styling of the conservatory.

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Out & About with The GEM

DiCaprio pushes himself to the limit in brutally beautiful revenge thriller

LEONARDO DICAPRIO may be hoping for fifth time lucky at next month's Academy Awards.

Having been the bridesmaid four times previously in acting categories, DiCaprio's fifth nomination has come for his lead role in Alejandro G Inarritu's *The Revenant*, where he plays Hugh Glass, a frontiersman on an expedition who is savagely mauled by a bear.

Tasked by Captain Henry (Domhnall Gleeson) to look after Glass, Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy) and Bridger (Will Poulter) leave Glass for dead in order to survive, with the former killing Glass' son; but Glass is soon on their trail, determined to take revenge for his child...

Most filmmakers having been critically lauded (and indeed Oscar-winning) as Alejandro G Inarritu was for last year's sublime *Birdman* could easily have relaxed, put their feet up and basked in the glow of their achievements.

That Inarritu has returned a year later is testament enough to his work ethic; that he has returned with something as brutally beautiful as *The Revenant* is testament to his hunger and ability as a director, the film a gorgeous and sumptuous, yet visceral, viewing experience that envelopes you as you watch.

The film was shot over nine months using only natural light, an attention to detail that only enriches the film, the sense of location and scale constantly with you. It strikes an incredibly balanced line between capturing the beauty of nature but also the harshness of the environment these men are in.

Opening with a gorgeous slow tracking shot through a forest, Inarritu soon flips into the brutality of battle as native Americans besiege the men's camp, a violent, yet incredible shot set-piece that features a single shot that veers from victim to victim, and ends with a pan that sees an arrow fly past the screen.

It's a bravura sequence, technically outstanding yet also immersive, and sets the tone for the rest of the film, Inarritu creating something tangible, gorgeous yet dangerous, with small notes like blood splatter hitting the lens, breath fogging up the lens, and even the camera being brushed away by the actors, all lending to the mesmeric nature of the film.

If the story (incredibly based in reality) has all the hallmarks of a revenge thriller, then its granted something deeper and more meaningful by the cast, in particular Leonardo DiCaprio, who pushes himself to the limits as Glass.

If being savaged by a bear (and savaged is putting it mildly as the film unflinchingly



by
GARETH JAMIESON

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shows), Glass truly goes through it, and that's before being left for dead and embarking on a journey of revenge. It's a role that an actor like DiCaprio sinks his teeth into and gives it everything he has, and you cannot fault the effort, determination and grit in a performance that asks much of him physically and mentally – and he delivers it incredibly well.

Tom Hardy's Fitzgerald is brought to life well by the actor, but the performance and the character feel a little one-note, with little depth afforded to a straightforward villain. Will Poulter brings a satisfying degree of light and shade to the morally conflicted Bridger, while Domhnall Gleeson is quietly solid as the

captain of the expedition.

At 156 minutes it's certainly not an easy watch; aside from the bursts of corporeal violence, the film has a languid pace that brings to mind the work of Terrence Malick, and certainly feels its legs in a final stretch that shifts gears from something ethereal to the more mundane.

Yet, *The Revenant* is an incredible achievement from both director and cast – it's a revenge film but with a difference, that difference being the sumptuous direction of Inarritu and DiCaprio's committed turn.

VERDICT: Poetically beautiful, unflinchingly brutal, *The Revenant* is a superb film, brought vividly to life by Alejandro G Inarritu's visual storytelling and Leonardo DiCaprio's gutsy and powerful performance. Slowly-paced, but achingly told, *The Revenant* is sublime piece of filmmaking. *Essential viewing.*

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *The New World* (2005), *Babel* (2006).

AMERICAN author Lorin Morgan-Richards' new book *Welsh In The Old West* captures the enduring hardships and legendary accomplishments of over 30 known and lesser-known emigrants from Wales and their Welsh descendants, whose lives helped shape the American West.

A unique collection of biographical stories starts in Wales with Welsh cattle drovers, who were precursors of American cowboys.

Welsh In The Old West is fully illustrated by artists from Wales and the US, depicting pioneers, outlaws, inventors, military leaders, miners and more. A special foreword by Jude Johnson, author of *Cactus Cymry* and an authority on Welsh in the southwest United States, puts it all in context.

"In curating the artwork I believed it was important to establish a contemporary bridge to paint the past" – Lorin Morgan-Richards. Kerry Evans'

painting of John Perrett on the cover captures his subject's determination. Perrett, of Welsh descent, spent his entire life as a miner in Deadwood, South Dakota, and was said to have found the world's largest gold nugget.

The legendary Jesse James, whose family originated from Pembrokeshire, west Wales, had the charisma to become the Robin Hood of the West, but his lawless career cost him his life.

Annie Ellis of Denbighshire, north Wales, was abandoned on the streets of Kansas City at the age of 13. Having contended with outlaws in Dodge City, she built her own boarding house that saw the likes of Wyatt Earp, Wild Bill Hickock and others, and gained significant wealth in later life.

Welsh emigrants and descendants made important contributions during American expansion, including Oliver Evans' steam engine and early design of the automobile; John Plumbe Jr of Castle Caereinion, Powys, was the first nationally-known professional photographer and single-handedly launched the idea of

brand recognition.

Wells Fargo established the first messenger service west of Buffalo (Fargo was of Welsh descent) and David Robert Evans of Aberystwyth, helped found the Rodeo Association of America.

"While the Welsh American story is still being written, I hope my readers find this unique collection valuable in understanding what our ancestors have overcome and built for the greater society. It wasn't always a pretty picture and we struggle today even in our own communities to partner and foster interest in who we are as a people, not as Americans, but as Welsh Americans, and where we have come from and how our past helps define who we are today.

"The fountain of youth resides in our memory. You will never outlive your shadow," says the author.

Lorin Morgan-Richards, author, poet and illustrator, known mostly for his children's books, is also publisher of Celtic Family Magazine: an internationally distributed print and digital publication on Celtic history and culture. He also served as executive director of the Los Angeles St David's Day Festival.

Welsh In The Old West is available through Barnes & Noble online, Amazon, and through the publisher's website: www.aravenabovestory.com.

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Quiz night in Dinas Powys

DINAS Powys Voluntary Concern invites you to a fun quiz night with Paul Marks, at 7.30pm on Friday, February 26 at the parish hall, Dinas Powys.

Doors will open at 7pm. Refreshments and licensed bar; £6 per person, maximum six per team.

Application forms from the DPVC office (02920 513700) or email: info@dpvc.org.uk and the parish hall on Britway Road.

Come along for a great evening out!



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Simone 02920 599001

Tuesdays 5.00pm and 7.00pm
The Ship (Private Entrance), Harbour Road, Barry
Simone 02920 599001

Mondays 5.30pm
Celtic Way Community Centre, Rhose
Helen 01446 750738/07968 355119

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Lorraine 01446 407002

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Tuesdays 5.30pm
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Joanne 01446 404897

Tuesdays 6.30pm
The Old School, South Road, Sully CF64 5TG
Nicola - 01446 740394

Wednesdays 6.00pm
Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road, Barry
Joanne 01446 404897

Wednesdays 4.45pm and 6.45pm
St Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-Y-Castell, Barry
Annmarie 01446 736534

Wednesday 3.30pm, 5.30pm, and 7.30pm
Bridgend Deaf Club, Coychurch Road, Bridgend
Helen - 01656 720963

Thursdays 10.15am
St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry CF63 4EL
Nicola - 01446 740394

Thursdays 5.30pm
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Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, January 21, the society welcomes Pontypridd artist and teacher Alison Fennell, who will be giving a watercolour demonstration www.etsy.com/shop/eastwitching

On January 28, Penarth artist Shirley-Ann Owen (www.shirleyanneowenartist.com) will demonstrate working methods in ink and acrylic.

CAS welcomes artists of any ability and also non-artists interested in various art techniques or illustrated lectures on related topics.

It meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge, 7pm - 9pm. Occasional visitors and new members are

NEWS IN BRIEF

welcome. For details of the society's activities see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com

Gala concert
MUSIC in the Vale Young Musician competition winners will perform on Sunday, January 24, at 2pm in All Saints Church, Victoria Square, Penarth.

Tickets £5 (£3 concessions) at the door or from www.musicinthevale.org.uk/concert.html.

Carers' Café
CARERS in Cardiff and the Vale needing advice and support are being encouraged to attend the Marie Curie Carers' Café.

Held twice a month at

the Marie Curie Cardiff and the Vale Hospice in Penarth, the Carers' Café provides an environment for carers to meet and discuss their caring role over a cake and a cuppa.

The next Carers' Cafés will take place between 2pm and 4pm on Tuesday, January 26 and Tuesday, February 2; all are welcome.

For more information, contact Sarah Johnson on 02920 426023 or email sarah.johnson@mariecurie.org.uk.

Floral society
THE AGM of the Barry Floral Society will take place at St Nicholas Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry at 2.15pm on Tuesday, January 26. New members welcome.

Credit Union advice

ARE you living in the Vale, and looking for flexible saving accounts, affordable low interest loans, or loans for electrical and white goods?

In partnership with Co-op Electrical, Age Connects Cardiff and Vale is holding a session at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, on Tuesday, January 26, from 10am to 12 noon. A

An adviser from Cardiff and Vale Credit Union will be present to answer questions about the scheme.

No appointment is necessary; contact 01446 732384 for further information.

Local stylist Lauren sets her sights on Miss Wales

LOCAL hairdresser, Lauren England, is hoping to make the cut - as a finalist in the Miss Wales competition on April 16.

For Lauren, a senior stylist at Hair Crew at Ewenny, the next few months promise to be a "rollercoaster ride".

As part of her journey to the finals, Lauren will be undertaking many activities and raising money for the charity Beauty with Purpose, which supports children worldwide.

Her preparation is well underway: "I am really excited to be a finalist in Miss Wales. I can't believe that the finals are now only a few months away. There is a lot to do and it's going to be a busy time from now up until the finals," she said.

Hair Crew are sponsoring Lauren in the competition: "I am thrilled that Hair Crew are supporting me in so many ways and that I'm able to help also by talking about how fabulous the salon in Ewenny is. My clients are really excited and have been so supportive and encouraging," Lauren added.

Events are being held in the salon over the coming months to support Lauren and her charity, so watch this space for further information.



Miss Wales finalist Lauren England.

HAIR CREW ARE A CUT ABOVE THE REST!

IT'S been four months since Hair Crew launched their business in Ewenny ... time certainly does fly when you're having fun!

It's been a busy time for this new hair and beauty salon as they make their mark in the Vale.

They have quickly gained a reputation for the quality of work, range of services and an outstanding team and the five-star reviews on Facebook page prove the point.

The team at Hair Crew have many years' experience in the hair and beauty industry, with a loyal and growing client base from across the Vale, Bridgend and Cardiff.

Through a tailored and individual consultation, they ensure that each client receives a bespoke service; coupled with leading professional hair and beauty products.

They say proudly: "Our team are

ADVERTISING PROMOTION

fantastic, they genuinely care about every client and through their strong team ethos and sheer professionalism create a great salon experience for each and every customer.

"We are looking forward to welcoming new clients who haven't been to us before and as a welcome gift we will be offering a 15 per cent discount on their first visit. They will then join our popular loyalty scheme which we run in the salon."

Hair Crew @ Ewenny is a 'cut above', offering a great experience in an idyllic village setting, superb service, amazing coffee and parking outside the salon! What more could we ask for?

For details, please visit their Facebook page, their website www.haircrewld.co.uk or call the salon on 01656 655005.

2016 IS THE YEAR TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

VOLUNTEERING can be life changing. You can gain practical experience, new skills, enhance your CV, build your confidence, meet new people, gain a reference, access accredited training - or have a taster for a career change.

For many older people, the days can seem never-ending.

Many do not see anyone from one week to the next; sometimes no-one at all. The cold and early dark evenings are factors that prevent people going out.

This social isolation can have a devastating effect and also cause many health problems.

To have a little company can make a vast improvement, which is why we are looking for volunteer befrienders. As little as two hours per week can make a huge difference to an older person; just having a chat and a

cup of tea can bring a little happiness.

We are also looking for volunteer drivers who could also assist with shopping or doctor/hospital appointments.

You will need to be reliable, have good listening skills, and be empathetic with the needs of older people.

We have over 500 volunteering opportunities available, so please contact GVS on 01446 741706 or e-mail volunteering@gvs.wales for further information.

Top 10 Volunteering opportunities



Empowering people. Inspiring excellence. Strengthening communities.

1

Part Subsidiary, Part Future delivers a combination of 1-1 case work for offenders resettling from prison into the community and drop-in support groups. To deliver this project we require a team of Through the Gate volunteer members. Ref 453

2

Would you like to help with the "Shine" childcare project? You would support interaction at stay and play sessions through meaningful play. Ref 379

3

Interested in outdoor volunteering? You can help with gardening, conservation projects etc. Ref 741/396/825

4

Help to raise funds for life limited children by volunteering in our charity shop. You can help with steaming, tagging, sorting, window displays, use of the till and customer service. Ref 227

5

Would you like to teach first aid? As an event first aid tutor you will provide first aid and life saving training to those who would like to learn the skill. Ref 761

6

Home Visiting Volunteers are required to support local families within the Cardiff area with at least one child under the age of five, requiring emotional or practical support, friendship and a listening ear. Ref 491

7

Support the RMLI! We are looking for volunteers to help in the Barry Island Visitor Centre, helping with customer service, stock display, replenishment. Ref 384

8

Support individuals engaged in affiliated substance misuse projects. This could include buddying/ befriending, social diversionary activities, drop-in centres, criminal justice work. Ref 172

9

Barry Sea Cadets are looking for volunteers to train their young people in seamanship, adventure, boating. Ref 21

10

Neighbourhood Resolution Panels and Community Panels bring local communities together, using restorative and reparative approaches to agree resolutions that can be achieved to move forward. Ref 893

Contact GVS visit www.gvs.wales, e-mail enquiries@gvs.wales or call 01446 741706

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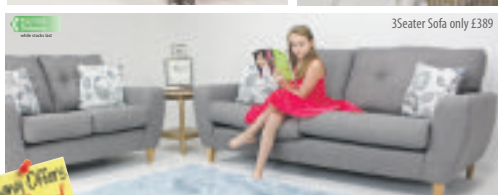
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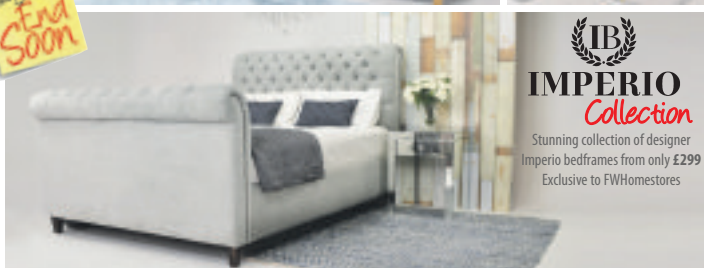
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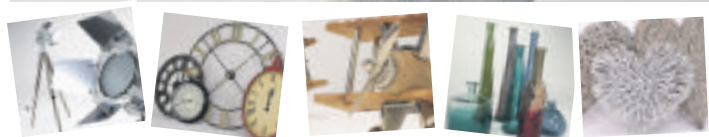
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A BLAST FROM THE PAST - 1978

THE GEM's
Brian Lee
takes another
look through his
press
books - this time
for 1978, when
Coychurch's Paul
Hamer was making
the headlines:

Under the heading
'Dashing Hamer Grabs
Dead-Heat', I wrote:
'Paul Hamer rode a
powerful finish on
Prince Haven 11 to
force a dead-heat with
Knight's Queen in the
restricted open at the
Pembrokeshire Hunt
Steeplechases on
Saturday. John
Llewellyn, rider of
Knight's Queen, also
scored on *Fly Dai* and
Dolwen Wood.

The BMW open race
at the meeting was won
by *Sunny Kumar*, which
beat *Romany Park* and
Trefelyn Heather and
Vernon Beynon riding
Mr Ming won the
maiden race.

'Mandryka again!' was my heading for my
report on the Brecon
Hunt Steeplechases at
Llanfrynach: 'Despite
being headed on the
run-in, 14-year-old
Mandryka fought back
to beat his old rival
Sampson Brass on
Saturday. *Mandryka*
was winning his 43rd
race.'

Llancafarn's Mary
Williams finished third
on *Underhill* which
went off the 6-4
favourite and those who
backed *Mandryka* were
rewarded with odds of
4-1.

At the Curre Hunt
Steeplechases that year,
Rhonda's Shan
Morgan chalked-up her
40th winner when
bringing the mighty
Mandryka to beat *Cold*
George by 20 lengths in
the ladies' open race.
Of the 15 starters, only
seven finished the
course and several
riders received injuries.
Miss V Hill, who took a
first fence tumble from
Ballinda, was taken to
hospital with a
suspected broken pelvis.

It was at this meeting
that Brian Price landed
a double with *Abbot's*
Delight in the restricted
and *Craig Miss* in the
adjacent. John Beavis
was also in fine form
winning on

Tempestuous (members)
and *Mischiefous King*
(maiden).

Cowbridge's John
Llewellyn bagged a
double on Bert Lavis's
pair *Gin Penant* and
Darwin at the Vale of
Clettwr Hunt
Steeplechases.

Darwin, backed from
3-1 to 1-2 favourite,
scored by six lengths
from *Queen's County*,
ridden by Bridgend's
David Oakes, in the
maiden race (division 2)
and *Gin Penant* beat
Lazy Lady (Robert
Oakes).

The ladies' open race
went to *Port-n-Lemon*
and Ann Ostman, who

just got home by a head
from *Mandryka*.

At the Crawley and
Horsham meeting,
Linden Lad, owned by
Cowbridge's Diane
Sloman, won the ladies'
open race and I reported
the sad news that at the
Beaufort Hunt meeting,
farmer's son John
Pickford had been killed
when his mount
Lacking Ray fell at the
fifth fence and rolled on
top of him. Aged just
28, he had recently
returned from Australia.
Lacking Ray was his
own horse and was a
recognised and hesitant
jumper.

The race was won by
Accord, which used to
be owned by
Cowbridge's Mrs Sue
Williams and a gamble
on Welsh point-to-
pointer *Border*
Merchant went astray
when the six-year-old
finished third in a
division of the restricted
race.

There were 24
runners for the men's
open and Rose Harry's
Fitz, partnered by John
Llewellyn, finished
third behind *Sparkford*
and *Midway Welcome*.

At the Banwen
Miners, Cefn Soloman
scored a shock 20-1 win
in the men's open. Tiny
Cefn Soloman took over
the lead at the second
last fence to win by
three lengths from the
pacemaking favourite
Heron'slea. Cefn
Soloman's owner,
Dillwyn Thomas, a
steward at the meeting,
said: "Paul Hamer rode
an excellent race."

Mandryka was a 20
lengths winner of the
ladies' open race and
Barry Thomas won the
maiden on *April Lady*.

When I interviewed
Peter Scudamore after
he had won the adjacent
race on *Melivan* at the
Monmouthshire point-
to-point at Llanvayle,
little did I think that I
was interviewing
someone who would
become one of the most
successful National
Hunt jockeys of all
time.

I certainly had a
scoop that day as he
told me that he was
going to turn
professional. I
remember the occasion
well, as he was with his
father Michael, who had
won the 1959 Grand
National on *Oxo*, and
his grandfather
Geoffrey, who had also

ridden in point-to-
points.

As it happened,
Melivan beat *Reveris*,
who was ridden by
Cowbridge's Mary
Williams.

The men's open race
that day went to
Sparkford, a very useful
performer, who was
ridden by John Bryan
and the ladies' open
race to *Linden Lad*
ridden by Rosemary
White with Mary taking
second place again on
Underhill.

'Plunger disqualified'
was the heading of one
of my end of the season
reports and I wrote:
'Barton Williams' tail-
spinning *Plunger*, who
finished first in the
maiden race at the
Llangeinor Hunt point-
to-point on May 13, has
been disqualified.
Plunger had not
qualified with one of
the required adjacents
hunts.

'The race has now
been awarded to June
Jones' *Lord Belvedere*.
It also appears that
Welsh officials have
blundered in allowing
Plunger to run in any
maiden races at all.
According to Horse and
Hound Hunter Chasers
and Point-To-Pointers
annual, the horse had
won as a three-year-old
over 12 furlongs.

'A maiden' is a
horse which, at the time
of starting, has never
won a steeplechase,
hurdle race or any other
race under the rules of
any recognised turf
authority - point-to-

point races included.

...And to end on a
more positive note, I
wrote: 'Top-spot Hamer
Marks Up Diary'.

'September 29 -
that's the date Paul
Hamer has marked
down in his diary. It's
the day when the 18-
year-old Coychurch
welder will be heading
for London, where the
National Point-To-Point
dinner takes place.

"Paul, who used to
ride in local gymkhanas,
will be presented with
the Grand Mariner
novices riders'
championship trophy.

"Before the start of
the point-to-point
season just ended, Paul
had ridden just one
winner but, taking over
from the injured Henry
Blake as stable jockey to
Bridgend owner
Dillwyn Thomas, he
chalked up a remarkable
10 winners - two more
than his nearest rival
Lucy King.

"One of Paul's best
riding feats was scoring
a shock win on *Prince*
Haven 11 over the odds-
on *Jimm Lad*. Then
down in Devon, he and
little Cefn Soloman got
the better of the
experienced Richard
Miller on the fancied
Joed."

I would be pleased to
hear your news/views
and see any point-to-
point pictures you
would like to share with
other GEM readers.

Email
brianlee4@virginmedia.
com or call 02920
736438.

Older people's charity sounds cold snap alert

AS the Met Office issued a level-two cold
weather alert this
week, older people's
charity Independent
Age warned older
people, their families
and carers to take extra
care. It's also
providing a free advice
leaflet on how to stay
well in winter, called
'Being Winter Wise'.

Last year, the ONS
found that an estimated
36,300 excess winter
deaths occurred in
Wales and England in
2014/15 among people
aged 75 and over. In
addition to this,
according to a recent
poll, an estimated
752,000 older people
have had to choose
between paying for food
and paying for heating
and almost half (43 per
cent) of those aged 65
and over say they have
gone to bed early to stay
warm at least once.

'Being Winter Wise' is
free to order and
download from
www.independentage.org
g/> or call 0800 319
6789 to order a leaflet.

Ty Hafan lottery winners

**THE following are winning
numbers in the Ty Hafan
Crackjackpot lottery draw
number D914.**

● **£2,000:** 113338.
● **The rollover was not won this
week.**

● **£10:** 518816, 628330, 819892,
494576, 398998, 291620, 762750,
783579, 430361, 888210, 599971,
793346, 777800, 684931, 409561,
705093, 901611, 832460, 162021.

● **£5:** 319646, 301571, 734964,
868549, 192829, 639594, 561059,
331603, 408582, 798818, 409573,
344873, 737065, 821472, 629831,

107235, 880252, 812002, 174222,
432498, 288059, 722743, 595721,
584717, 269863, 876646, 562977,
319518, 144744, 635775, 186436,
747253, 480626, 812067, 582688,
582125, 530673, 328256, 604732,
172898, 761342, 305278, 134798,
356940, 797430, 566424, 612631,
768320, 937770, 577786, 537290,
325518, 247686, 381581, 165258,
615177, 724, 988.

The GEM cannot be held responsible
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THURS 21st JAN



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**PEDIGREE
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£1.50
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FRI 22nd JAN



10X330ml

**10 PACK
COKE REG /
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was £2.99
£1.50
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SAT 23rd JAN



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MIXED RESULTS FOR PENARTH HOCKEY CLUB

PENARTH Club's First XI welcomed Lansdown as the first victim of the New Year as they attempted to maintain their unbeaten start to the De Cymru and The Marches 1 season.

After a four-week break, and in torrential rain, both teams could be forgiven for a sloppy start as they struggled with their control, but it was Penarth who settled first and began to find their rhythm.

Jonny Moore picked up where he had left off in 2015, putting in some selfless running that eventually created the first goalscoring chance. Having beaten the defence, he found himself one-on-one with the goal-mouth gaping and was sent tumbling by a poor challenge from the Lansdown keeper, winning his side a penalty stroke that player-coach Ben Croxall expertly dispatched to make it 1-0 to the hosts.

With the lead adding to their confidence, Penarth started to dominate the exchanges. The introduction of Sam Chick hammered home the Bears' advantage. After three months on the sidelines with a broken elbow, he wasted no time in making his presence felt, scoring with his first touch, after some fine work from Croxall on the right to put the home side two up.

Barely two minutes and two Chick touches later – one to control and one to make the pass – David Joyce swept home to make it 3-0.

Penarth were now finding the form that saw them finish off 2015 in such strong form, and a goal blitz either side of the half-time interval would blow Lansdown away and see the Vale side break the 100-goal barrier after just 13 games.

Moore tore the away defence apart, laying on the goals for his team mates. Joyce completed a quick-fire five to climb the goal-scoring charts, while

Laith El Khatib grabbed himself a hat-trick to continue his fine form in front of goal. Chick and Croxall eventually bagged a brace each, while Usman Dhami chipped in with a goal of his own to see Penarth notch up 13 by the final whistle.

The visitors rallied late in the game to find the back of the net twice and ruin Penarth's clean sheet. Despite that, Penarth were delighted with their first performance after the winter break, especially with tough games against Swansea City and Cardiff University in a couple of pivotal weeks for their season.

Final score: Penarth 13, Lansdown 2.

Goalscorers: David Joyce (5), Laith El Khatib (3), Ben Croxall (2), Sam Chick (2), Usman Dhami

Penarth v Swansea City

THE First XI were back on their travels for the first away day of 2016 and, true to captain Tom Haran's assessment, the trip to local rivals Swansea City proved to be their toughest test of the campaign to date.

As impressive as Penarth have been, Swansea also boasted an unbeaten home record, winning seven from seven, but it was the visitors who were quickest out of the blocks, opening the scoring with the first attack of the game inside the first couple of minutes.

Once again, it was El-Khatib on the mark, finding space in the final third before making his way into the 'D' and lashing an unstoppable shot low past the Swansea keeper.

Penarth continued to dominate the opening exchanges playing some slick hockey, moving the ball quickly and creating chances, and it wasn't long before Moore's pace again started causing problems as he found space behind the Swansea defence and drew a foul to win the Bears a penalty corner. El-Khatib's drag flick was narrowly wide.

Pushing for a second goal allowed Swansea their own opportunities and it was the home side that would score next, albeit in contentious circumstances as aerial ball from the Swansea defence seemed to be safely picked up by Sam Williamson, only for him to be tackled by a Swansea attacker who did not appear to have retreated the required distance before being allowed to engage. Despite protestations, the Swansea player levelled the scores.

Defending a Swansea penalty corner, Penarth player-coach Ben Croxall controlled the ball and drew a foul, only to be hacked from behind after the whistle. The umpire saw it differently and the

offender walked away unpunished, only to rub salt into the wound by giving Swansea the lead with a straight strike from another penalty corner finding its way past Adam Putt to put the home team 2-1 up.

El-Khatib levelled the score by converting a penalty corner with a drag flick high into the top of the net.

The Vale side started the second half brightly and got back to playing some free-flowing hockey, creating chances but failing to convert them. Swansea then struck back, scoring three unanswered goals with some good counter-attacking play.

Penarth fought back strongly over the remainder of the game, with Philip Lane working his trickery in the 'D', leaving the Swansea defence with no option but to grab a piggy-back ride to try and stop him and, this time, the umpire pointed to the spot. David Joyce stepped up and showed no nerves as he fired the ball high into the net.

Penarth poured men forward in an all-out attack in an effort to get back on level terms, and Joyce pulled the Bears to within one goal as a straight strike from the top of the 'D' rifled in the bottom corner to leave the visitors with a five-minute scramble to find an equaliser.

One more chance saw Penarth's Joyce stepping up for the penalty corner, but the keeper managed a fine save to leave the score at 5-4 to end Penarth's winning streak and maintain Swansea's unbeaten home run.

Although disappointed, Penarth could have won the game, with both Moore and Chris Baker going close on a couple of occasions and Joyce hitting the inside of the post on another, but Swansea converted their chances and were worthy winners.

Goalscorers: David Joyce (2), Laith El-Khatib (2).

Final score: Swansea City 5 Penarth 4.

Penarth B v Gwent B

WITH the Second XI's game at Hawthorn falling foul of a frozen field, the weekend's early focus fell on the Thirds who, having drawn 2-2 earlier in the season, anticipated an equally close encounter against their counterparts from Gwent.

The first half at Stanwell saw the home side establish a 2-0 lead with goals from Paul Thomas, who beat the Gwent keeper following an excellent through ball from Devash Patel. Skipper Nick Pratt calmly converted a penalty stroke.

The second half was a more evenly-matched

affair, despite Derek Wooding extending the lead when he scored from an acute angle, much to the Gwent keeper's annoyance.

As the visitors struggled to get back into the game, they were additionally frustrated by Penarth's 'man between the sticks', Jason Harris, and the disciplined Bees defence and midfield, which was marshalled by sweeper Simon Wilkinson and Morgan Salisbury.

Frustrations boiled over on a number of occasions and the umpires were forced to issue a general warning to both skippers but, with time running out, Gwent finally breached the Penarth defence and beat man-of-the-match Harris to score what proved to be little more than a consolation goal.

With local rivals Bridgend drawing with Swansea, only goal difference kept the Bees in third place in De Cymru 3, a division dominated by runaway leaders Whitchurch F, who Penarth travel to face this Saturday.

Goalscorers: Paul Thomas, Nick Pratt (pen), Derek Wooding.

Final score: Penarth B 3, Gwent B 1.

Weather permitting, all three Penarth Hockey Club sides should in action this weekend, with the First XI looking to return to winning ways against a dangerous Cardiff University side and the Seconds also taking on student opposition as they entertain Swansea University in a rematch of a tough early season encounter.

With both senior sides at Stanwell School, the third XI will travel to Whitchurch to take on the league leaders.

CL

Barrivale bridge club results

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club for January 12:

1st Irene Thomas and Jenny Vaughan 69.17 per cent; 2nd Mark Roderick and Denis Mottram, and Jane Brook and Mick Green (both 61.67). Irene Thomas and Jenny Vaughan also won on handicap.

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DR

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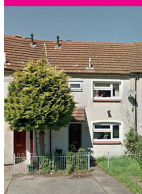
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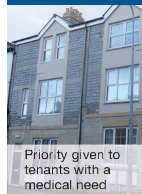
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Family Notices

GRIFFITHS

John Robert

Suddenly at the University Hospital of Wales Cardiff on January 6, Jonny Griff (ex Vale of Glamorgan Mayor and a Barry Town Councillor) of Trinity Street, Barry. Dearly beloved husband of Pamela, much loved dad of Nathan, Tracy, Rachel and the late Mark. Adored bampy of Charlotte and Evan, loving brother of David.

John will be sadly missed by all his loving family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynenydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until his funeral service in the chapel on Monday, January 25 at 11am, followed by cremation at the Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations in lieu of flowers to the R.N.L.I.

PRINCE

Barrian (Baz)

Peacefully on January 16 at Llandough Hospital surrounded by his loving family. Baz, well known of Barry and devoted husband of 55 years to Linda. Adored dad of Susie, Deby, Tracy, Anna-Marie and Emma. Respected son-in-law of Allan, Ken, Lee and Simon. Cherished grandad to Martin, Jamey, James, Kattie, Hayley, Gary, Ellie, Baz, Josh, Dana, Leah, William, Mika, Eva and great granddaughter Molly. Special brother of Vincent and Lyndsey, David and Lynne.

Resting at Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until being received into St Helen's Church on Wednesday, January 27. Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday, January 28 at 1.15pm.

Family flowers only, donations may be made at the service to British Heart Foundation in memory of Baz. Family request something blue be worn. Further enquiries to Lyndsay Ellis, 01446 407962.

SMITH

Dilys Margaret (née Britton)

Peacefully but suddenly at Llandough Hospital on January 13, Dilys, beloved wife of the late Charles Smith, much loved mum of Jane, Gail and son-in-law Royston, cherished grandmother to Joelle, Jay, James, Joanna, Alexandra, Emma, Tasha and Nia, great grandma to Cerys and Millie.

Dilys will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service in the Chapel of Rest on Wednesday, January 27 at 2pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu if so desired for the British Heart Foundation c/o the funeral director.

HESLOP

Albert Frederick

Peacefully on January 16 at home, Albert, aged 95 years of Courtlands Park Road, Barry. Dearly loved husband of Joan, married for 73 years.

A loved father of Geraldine, Adrienne and father-in-law of Barrie and Peter. Cherished grandfather of Dawn, Sharon, Richard, James and great grandfather of Nicholas, Alex, William, Callum and Lily. Great grandfather to Layla. Brother of Olive.

Albert will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Sons Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the funeral on Tuesday, January 26. Service in the chapel at 1.45pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery. Family flowers only, if desired, donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Cancer Research UK and Parkinsons Disease.

ENGLISH

Ruth Mitchell (Middle)

Suddenly at home on January 5. Ruth, loving wife of Russell. Much loved mum of Julie, David, Sandra and Trudy. Cherished nan of Peter, Abigail, James, Victoria, Stefan and great nan of Morgan.

Ruth will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at Barry Spiritualist SNU Church, Buttrills Road, Barry on Friday, January 29 at 2.45pm, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only – donations if desired may be made at the service to support PDSA in memory of Ruth. Further enquiries to Lyndsay Ellis 01446 407962.

LEWIS

Avril

Peacefully after a short illness at Holme Tower, Penarth on January 17, Avril of Barry. Dearly beloved wife of the late John Lewis, much loved mum of Daryl and Sion. Mum-in-law of Sandra and Emma, adored Nana of Dylan, Tomos, Chay and Benjamin, loving sister of John, Jennifer and Sandra.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son, Tynenydd Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until her funeral service in the chapel on Tuesday, February 2 at 11am, followed by interment at Porthkerry Cemetery at 12 noon.

Family flowers only, but donations in lieu of flowers to Marie Curie Cancer Care (Holme Tower), Bridgeman Road, Penarth, CF64 3YR.

THOMAS

Anne

Peacefully at Holme Tower on January 15. Beloved wife of Alun, much loved mum of Hugh and Rachel, loved gran of Mattias, Isabella, James and Jonathan, great gran to Stellan.

Anne will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service at All Saints Church, Barry, on Friday, January 29 at 1pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu if so desired for Marie Curie Hospice Penarth c/o the funeral director.

HILL

Elizabeth (Betty)

Peacefully on January 17 at Holme Tower, Penarth, Betty of Treoes and formerly of Borough Close, Cowbridge. Beloved wife of the late Peter, dearly loved mother of David, Carol, Vanessa and the late Gareth, much loved grandmother, great-grandmother and mother-in-law.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Monday, January 25, service and cremation 1.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Holme Tower Marie Curie Centre c/o Mrs C James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

SULLIVAN

Pamela (née Lee)

Peacefully on January 9 in York. Beloved wife of the late Barry Sullivan and much loved mum of Carys and Claire. Also dearly missed by her mother Averil, brothers Anthony and David, and sister-in-law Bev.

Funeral service on Friday, January 22 at 11am at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. Family flowers only, donations to St Leonards Hospice, York/Cancer Research UK.

HURLEY

Leonard Francis

Peacefully on January 17 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Leonard the late husband of Joan, aged 90 years, of White Lodge, St Quentin's Close, Llanblethian, Cowbridge. He will be greatly missed by brother Malcolm. Dearly loved father of Christine, Frances and Phillip and much loved grandfather, great grandfather and great great grandfather.

Funeral service in Coychurch Crematorium on January 26 at 10.30am. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for The British Heart Foundation or British Legion c/o funeral director.

FRANCIS

John

Died suddenly but peacefully in hospital after a short illness on Sunday, January 17, aged 69 years. John of 29 Rhyd-y-Nant, Pontyclun, former teacher at Radyr Comprehensive school, member of Pendyrus male voice choir. Beloved husband of Glen and father of Glyn and Catherine, brother of Ros, dearest father-in-law of Rhian. Special 'Gugu' to Megan, Bleddyn, Evie, Owen and Gruff.

Sadly missed by all who knew him and whose lives he touched.

Service and cremation to be held at Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm on Wednesday, January 27. Family flowers only. Kind donations to the Air Ambulance c/o W.H. Preene & Son, Windrushe, Cardiff Road, Pontyclun, CF72 8PN.

Acknowledgements

CUMMINS

Ann Kathleen

Alan, Justine, and Nathan wish to thank family, friends and neighbours for their support and kind messages following the sad loss of Ann.

Special thanks to staff of East 18, Llandough Hospital, Crossroads in the Vale and Ty Hapus for their love and attention. Also to Canon Pat O'Gorman and the lovely Rebecca Evans for such a beautiful, celebratory service, and to Lyndsay Ellis and his colleagues for their caring and professional expertise.

ORCHARD

Craig (Orch)

Jan, Pete and family would like to thank everyone for their love and support at this very difficult time, and sincere gratitude for your kind donations to Craig's memorial fund.

Special thanks go to Rev Huw Butler for his outstanding service, to Arthur at W.A. Brown & Son for all his help along with Katie for catering. Also, thanks to Jules, Kay, Jesse, Jon B, Rachael and Francine for all that you have done.

JENKINS

John Stuart

Jo would like to thank everyone for their support, kind wishes and sympathy following John's passing.

She would also like to thank the Reverend Edward for his kind words and ministrations and Andrew Thomas, funeral director, for the dignified and professional funeral arrangements.

FAIRCHILD

Richard Royden

Passed away peacefully January 2nd, 2016

Jean and children, Allan, Paul, Jacqueline, Jeanette, Raymond, Wendy and families wish to thank everyone for their messages of sympathy during their recent loss. Also for kind donations to Parkinson's UK in memory of Dick and for your attendance at the funeral service. Many thanks also to the Revd Jayne Shaw.

Dick will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

LLOYD

Mansel

Peacefully on January 11 at his home in Llantwit Major, Mansel aged 86 years (former film editor with the BBC and Yorkshire Television). Much loved husband of Enid.

Greatly missed by his loving family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Pembroke House, Llantwit Major until the service in Bethel Baptist Church, Llantwit Major on Tuesday, January 26 at 12.45pm, afterwards to Coychurch Crematorium.

Family flowers only please, if wished donations (cheques only) for the Alzheimer's Society may be forwarded to the funeral home.

REES

Michael John 'Mike'

Peacefully at home on January 11, after a long illness. Devoted husband of 50 years to long illness. Father to Chris, Nigel, Paul and Ian and proud grandfather. Friend to many.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry until the service to celebrate his life on Wednesday, January 27 at 11am. Afterwards committal service at Cardiff & Glamorgan crematorium, Port Road East, Barry at 12 noon.

No flowers by request but donations in lieu to the British Heart Foundation via funeral director.

GAY

Arthur David

Peacefully on January 12, at UHW, Cardiff, surrounded by his family, David of Llancafarn (retired architect of Andrews, Gay and Partners, Barry). Beloved husband of Kay, devoted father and grandfather.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Tuesday, January 26, service 12.45pm at St. Cadocs Church, Llancafarn, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if desired, to Kidney Research Wales c/o J James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhosce, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

HARRISON

Michael Anthony

Tragically on January 11, Michael Anthony (Mike), aged 47 years, of St Athan, previously of Barry. Dearly loved husband of Tina. Mike will be sadly missed by all of his family and friends.

For further information regarding the funeral please contact A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry. Tel: 01446 735400.

SUMMERFIELD

Gertrude Doreen (Gert)

Peacefully at home, aged 91 years of Barry. Dearly loved wife of Bill. A loved mother of Hilary, Gerald and mother-in-law of Roy and Heather. Cherished grandmother of Victoria, David, Christopher, Richard and great grandmother of Erin and Jack.

Gertrude will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, until the funeral on Thursday, January 28. Funeral service at Cadoxton Methodist Church Barry at 9am, afterwards cremation at Barry Crematorium, 10am.

BINDING

Sylvia Irene

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, January 10, at the Waverley Nursing Home, Penarth. Much-loved mother of Neal and Philip, and adoring grandmother to Amy, Dylan and Vicky.

Funeral service and committal at The Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry, on Friday, January 29 at 12 noon.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for the Crossroads in the Vale (c/o the funeral director Lyndsay Ellis).

COOMBS

Michael

Suddenly while out walking, Michael, formerly of Alma Houses, Maesteg. Husband of Sandra, father of Lorna and Ralph, brother of Mary and Peter.

Funeral service at Bath Crematorium on Friday, January 22 at 1pm.

Recruitment



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Closing Date : 4th February 2016

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Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn gyflogwr cyfdeall.

Birthdays



Thank You

A BIG THANK YOU!

Mavis Richards of Cardigan Crescent, Boverton, would like to say thank you to her neighbour Gloria Jenkins for being up on Sunday night. Also, thank you to the two lovely young policemen who kindly came out and rescued her & helped her get back into her house.

Public Notice

STEPHEN PATRICK O'CONNELL (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above-mentioned deceased, late of 45 Fitzhamon Avenue Llantwit Major Vale of Glamorgan CF61 1TP, who died on 26/08/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 24/03/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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The Vale of Glamorgan Council (LLANMAES ROAD, LLANTWIT MAJOR) (PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN (PUFFIN) CROSSING)

1. The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act (1984) (as amended) and of all other enabling powers intends to install a pedestrian (puffin) crossing for the reasons described in Schedule 1 and at the location described in Schedule 2 below.
2. Full details of the proposal and a copy of the plan (T/15/139/MS) may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours.

SCHEDULE 1

It is envisaged that the installation of a pedestrian (puffin) crossing, with intelligent telemetry, will enhance pedestrian safety, especially children and vulnerable adults wishing to access the nearby recreational amenities via the footpath in Heol Ger-y-Felin.

A subtle kerbline alteration on the southern side of Llanmaes Road will ensure the retention of the mature trees, as well as improving the conspicuity of pedestrians at the crossing point.

SCHEDULE 2

The centre of the pedestrian (puffin) crossing will be approximately 16 metres east of the centre of its junction with Four Acre Llantwit Major.

Dated this 21st day of January 2016

Mr. M. E. Punter
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
The Alps, Quarry Road, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.



Planning

Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (CROESFAN CERDDWYR (PÂL) ARFAETHEDIG) (HEOL LLANFAES, LLANILLTUD FAWR)

1. Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, gan arfer ei bwerau o dan Adran 23 Deddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd (1984) (ddiwygiedig), a phob pŵer galluogi arall, yn bwriadu darparu croesfan cerddwyr (pâl) am y rhesymau a ddisgrifiwyd yn Atodlen 1 ac yn y lleoliad a ddisgrifiwyd yn Atodlen 2 isod.
2. Bydd y cynnig llawn a chopi o'r cynllun (T/15/139/MS) ar gael i'w darllen yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol.

ATODLEN 1

Drwy ddarparu croesfan cerddwyr (pâl) a chanddi system delemetrig ddeallus, rhagweldwn y gallwn gadw cerddwyr (yn enwedig plant ac oedolion bregus sy'n cerdded i'r cyfleoerau hamdden cyfagos ar hyd y llwybr troed yn Heol Ger-y-Felin) yn llawer mwy diogel.

Drwy symud ymyl y palmant ryw fyfyrn bach ar ochr ddeheuol Heol Llanfaes, gallwn nid yn unig gadw'r coed aeddfed ond hefyd sicrhau bod cerddwyr wrth y fan groesi'n haws eu gweld.

ATODLEN 2

Bydd canol croesfan cerddwyr (pâl) y cyngor oddeutu 16 metr i'r dwyrain o ganol y gyffordd â heol Four Acre yn Llanilltud Fawr.

Dyddiedig 21 Ionawr 2016

Mr. M. E. Punter
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau'r Amgylchedd a Thai,
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Canolfan yr Alpau, Heol y Chwarel, Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.



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Reserves back in action – and back to winning ways!

DINAS POWYS reserves carried on their winning ways after last playing in October.

Within 10 minutes Dai Williams slotted, after one of the slickest one-two movements this season will produce to make it 1-0. Then some sloppy work from midfield allowed the Caerau striker to level the score.

The Villagers once again switched off and a reckless challenge allowed the visitors a

free kick to make it 2-1, but their never-say-die attitude showed.

The back four was coolly marshalled by skipper Paul Caulfield and it didn't take long for James Perret to latch on to a through ball and Cooley rounded the keeper to pass into an empty net.

Once again the Villagers were caught napping for the visitors to end the half at 3-2.

In the second half, Caerau came out firing on all four cylinders, and

it took an outstanding save from Ashley Newcombe to keep the Villagers in the game.

A quick counter-attack led to Luke Garland levelling the score. Scot Muir was introduced to the game and after some quality running and a show of strength, it didn't take long for him to net a brace of goals.

The visitors didn't lie down and their substitute grabbed one back. Courtney Aviet was winning most of the 50/50 challenges in the middle of the park, and two quick goals from Williams and Garland put the game to bed for Dinas, the final score 7-4.

The second half brought out the best from the Villagers with some outstanding performances but man of the match went to the outstanding performance from young Reuben Brill.

Squad: Ashley Newcombe, Steve Miller, Rhys Turnbull, Paul Caulfield, Kurt Andrews, Luke Garland, James Alloway, Courtney Aviet, Reuben Brill, James Perret, Dai Williams, Tim Glossop, Scot Muir.

JC

SULLY Indoor Bowls Club have returned to Championship action after the Christmas break with games against Rhondda (away) and Newport (home), losing to Rhondda and beating Newport.

Both games were important in the context of the league positions with four sides – Sully, Rhondda, Newport and Taff Ely – all in the mix.

RHONDDA V SULLY Due to Rhondda only having a four-rink stadium the game was a played over two sessions, three rinks in the morning and three in the afternoon.

The three Sully morning rinks played well and were unfortunate to be just one behind at the end of the session, leaving the afternoon rinks in with a good chance of landing

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for January 18:

1st Tony Disley and Phil Felman 73.74 per cent, 2nd Glenda Roberts and Liam Sheridan 64.14, 3rd Sue Norris and Su Summerhayes 61.36.

LE

Sully bowlers enjoy mixed set of results

an excellent win.

Unfortunately one of the rinks went down heavily, losing by 16 shots which was the difference in the overall result.

Sully won on three of the six rinks, taking six points to Rhondda's 16.

SULLY V NEWPORT Newport came to Sully Stadium in confident mood and favourites to win the league but the Sully players were also charged up.

With Sully probably fielding one of their strongest teams, the game from the off was tight with very little in the scores throughout the first 10 ends.

Little had changed coming up to the 15th end where Sully held a slender advantage by just one shot.

Newport were pressing on all rinks but at end 18 Sully still held that one-shot lead and were responding well to the pressure.

The Sully breakthrough came on the 19th end when they took eight shots across the rinks to go nine ahead with two ends to play.

Another shot gained on the 20th end was followed by a further seven shots on the final end for a brilliant 17-shot victory, winning on three rinks, taking 16 points to Newport's six.

Sully travel to Rhondda for the second time in a couple of weeks on Saturday and a positive result will give Sully a chance of the league title.

SULLY V BLAENAU GWENT

Sully entered the WBA Knockout Cup this season for the first time in eight years and were drawn to play Blaenau Gwent at Sully.

The game took place on Sunday and once again Sully came up trumps, beating the first division side by just two shots, 81-79 to go into the quarter-final draw.

SULLY O-60s

The Sully O-60s have once again qualified for the knockout stages, having won their division and will play Merthyr at Pontardawe on Tuesday, February 9.

FP

Wales set to face Northern Ireland and Ukraine

WALES have announced two friendlies for March as part of the warm-up preparations for the European Championships.

Chris Coleman's men will face Michael O'Neill's Northern Ireland at the Cardiff City Stadium on March 24, before facing the Ukraine on March 28 at the NSK Olympiyskiy Stadium in Kiev.

Northern Ireland and Ukraine have been drawn in the same group for this summer's finals in France, while Wales face Slovakia, England and Russia, and Coleman told the FAW website that he was eagerly anticipating both games: "We are delighted to be playing the two fixtures and they will be ideal preparation for our group games."

"Michael O'Neill has done a fantastic job as manager of Northern Ireland and I am delighted for him. This will be a great occasion for both sets of fans ahead of the finals."

"Meanwhile, the Ukraine are quality opposition and will be a real test for myself, the coaching team and the squad of players."

Wales are unbeaten in seven games against Northern Ireland, having won their last encounter in 2011 2-0, while their two previous games against Ukraine in 2011 ended in 1-1 draws.

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Barry and District Ladies Skittle League results

LATEST results for November 30:

First division: SV Gals (J Richards 31) 319, Breakaways (C Parfitt 32) 247; Special Angels (J Abram 29) 224, Barry Stars (C Bishops 25) 196; Space Finders (D Cleaver, H Webb 34) 325, Family Affair (S Nemes 34) 361; Coppers (S Ford 37) 336, Family and Friends (H Provis, J Kirby 35) 337; Bakers Dozen (B Martin 27) 244, Castle Bandits (N Macey 24) 214; Allsorts (C Brewer 28) 264, Cigar Ladies (L Webb 24) 250, Bobby's Girls (D Evans 29) 256, Colcot Ladies (P Johnson 26) 250.

Second division: Pila Palas (S Bennett 35) 325, SV Lights (P Forrester, M Selyas 32) 310; Cad Con Fillies (a Harry, J Gee 24) 240, Witchill Weebies (B Reed 27) 254; Castaways (S Billings 30) 279, Clickies (K Watts 26) 256; Vixens (T Curmick 33) 279, Red Admiral (M Gee 31) 295; Merry Makers (R Collins 23) 204, Rhooose Starlights (D Stradling 27) 246; Rhooose Ravens (A Aukley 24) 231, Witchill Widows (L Sullivan, S Murray 23) 230.

Third division: Hill Billies (D Steward, G Moorcraft 31) 316, Twilights (C Thomas, C Brown 33) 309; Persuaders (E Gardner 27) 225, Dolly Mixtures (E Bryan 23) 199; Westenders (S

Woodford 24) 243, Roller Coasters (B Maffey 25) 233; La Belles (J Williams 36) 324, Friends and Neighbours (C Ferris 3) 291; SV Ladies (S Halls 30) 279, Fallen Angels (D Richards 31) 301; Etcetera (C Mackintosh 30) 248, Airways Angels (L Taylor 27) 261.

Fourth division: Guardian Angels (L Harris 26) 207, Nite Outers (B Lowrie 22) 168; Challengers (J Jones 30) 287, Hell Raisers (C Davies 33) 291; Witchill Wanderers (V Kerlake 38) 324, Witches (C Green 34) 337; Rebels (S Oram 24) 187, Optimists (H Ball 22) 141; Uptown Girls (A Hobbs 26) 252, Living on the Spare (A Fill 21) 201; Off The Rails (L McCormack 24) 217, Socialites (A Hicks 24) 209; Odd Bods (K Dutton 29) 268, Aristocats (C Chatwell 27) 234.

Results for December 7:

First division: Breakaways (C Parfitt, B Thurston, L Smith, C Smith, J Swayne 30) 332, Special Angels (R Niblett 35) 320; Barry Stars (L Lambeth 36) 316, Space Finders (J Jones 34) 340; Family Affair (Sandra Wilson 33) 282, Coppers (J Hartnell 30) 252; Family and Friends (J Crompton, G Brown 25) 231, Bakers' Dozen (M Lewis 22) 210; Castle Bandits (L Nash 28) 254, Cigar Ladies (Aimee McCarthy, L Webb 26) 257; Bobby's Girls (N Toogood 24) 237, Allsorts (H Bunting, L Thomas 24) 240.

Second division: Witchill Widows (S Murray 36) 308, Pila Palas (H Palfrey 33) 319; SV Lights (P Beadle 31) 290, Cad Con Fillies (D Stringer 29) 264; Witchill Weebies (H Aspinall 34) 340, Castaways (J Martin 32) 330; Clickies (K Watts 32) 285, Vixens (A Brattle 32) 276; Red Admiral (H Selby 26) 227, Little Devils (S Jones 21) 209; After Eights (E Carmichael, P Mephram 34) 245, Rhooose Starlights (L Fields 35) 287; Rhooose Ravens (C Davidson 26) 209, Merry Makers (R Collins 27) 200.

Third division: Airways Angels (M Carpenter 24) 236, Rugby Triers (D Sherrin 28) 234; Divas (C Jenkins 22) 176, Hill Billies (G Moorcroft 29) 215; Twilights (M Saunders, T Davies 23) 204, Persuaders (F Organ 24) 195; Dolly Mixtures (S Burdge 29) 272, Westenders (M Condon 29) 262; Roller Coasters (L Gould 25) 233, La Belles (S Webber, S Curtis 24) 207; Friends and Neighbours (C White 24) 211, Fallen Angels (C Jones 27) 246, Etcetera (K Baker 27) 259, S V Ladies (K Lacey 30) 266.

Fourth division: Nite Outers (L Newman, M Hudson 25) 229, Challengers (B Binding, J Diamond 28) 234; Hell Raisers (A Bennett 25) 237, Witchill Wanderers (V Kerslake 24) 192; Witches (C Green 26) 227, Rebels (J Farr 23) 213; Optimist (E Playle 28) 263, Uptown Girls (J Marsh 29) 279; Living on the Spare (A Finn 40) 332, Off the Rails (L McCormack 35) 319, Socialites (J Fumis 27) 252, Liberals (A Boyd 27) 187.

The Barry and District men's skittles league

DIVISION 1:

Barry Park 'B' (P.Clark 32) 288, 49'ers (P.Solowayk, R.Bryan, S.Baggott, G.Yarr 25) 263; Blue Monkey (A.Penberthy 33) 284, Cavaliers (B.Kilgour 26) 244; Mighty Dockers (P.Davies 25) 258, Ex-Servicemen (P.Swannick 31) 240; The Hairly Lemons (T.Wyman 26) 246, Cavaliers (M.Ryan 29) 264; Barry Park 'B' (B. Batt, G. Goldsby 30) 286, Geest (S. R. Jones 29) 268.

DIVISION 2:

Bufs Exiles (R.Miller 29) 253, Park Rangers (N.Bright 29) 81; 'H' Hells (B.White, J.Davies 26) 264, Cannon Balls (I.Fordyth 28) 276; Park Lads (M.Whyman 27) 263, Exiles (J.Miles, G.Mitchell 26) 246; The Royalists (M.Roberts

26) 258, Abercrete (R.Miller, J.Newton 27) 270; Tynny Flyers (L. Georgiou 28) 280, Posties (M. Churchill 30) 290; Willie Wombles (B.Nicholls, I.Draisey 30) 289, Witchill Poachers (R.Ashby, S.Rogers 27) 278.

DIVISION 3:

Alteratives (J.Davies 28) 261, Billy Whizz (L.Hunt, J.Fallusia 27) 274; British Rail (T.Hill, B.Smith, J.Dakin, K.Brown 26) 256, KP Monkeynuts (P.Best 29) 246; Glenbrook Rangers (C.Davey 29) 267, C.U.D. (R.Perrington, R.Tipple, D.Perrington 26) 266; The Rejects (N.Donnelly 31) 307, Mariner Vikings (B.Allen, A.Burnell 32) 327; Up The Marines (A.Jones 25) 246, KP Monkeynuts (D.Bennett 24) 263.

HR

The Barry and District league tables and results

CRIB DIVISION 1:

Wyndham Cons A 2; Rhooose Social B 2; Cadoxton Cons 5; Market Street C 3; Moors Boys 10; Penarth Cons B 1; Wyndham Cons 8, West End Runaways 7.

League table: Savoy A 59, Harbour B 57, West End C 39, Wyndham Cons A 39, Cadoxton Cons B 37, *Cadoxton Cons Z 33, Rhooose Social C 31, Rhooose Social B 27, Caddy Allstars 25, Market Street C 23 Penarth Cons B 21.

SKITTLES DIVISION 1:

Rugby Club 4, Barries Boys 3; Rhooose Social A 3, West End D 4; Cambrian Flyers 1, Liberals A 6; Liberals C 4.5, Sea View B 2.5; Rhooosters 3, King William XII 4; Rhooose Social B 1, Rhooose Social C 6; West End C 5, Allsorts 2.

League table: Sea View B 70, West End D 61.5, King William XII 53.5, Rhooose Social B 53, Rugby Club 52.5, West End C 48, Slammers 45.5, Barries Boys 44.5, Allsorts 39, Rhooose Social A 39, Liberals A 38.5, Rhooosters 36.5, Rhooose Social C 34.5, Liberals C 34, Cambrian Flyers 29.

SNOKER DIVISION 1:

Rhooose Social C 2, Caddy Allstars 3; Harbour B 4, Cadoxton Cons Z 1; Savoy A 3.

JW

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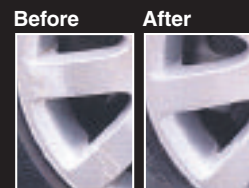
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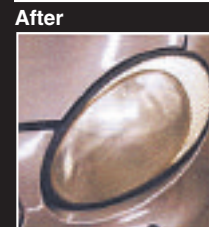
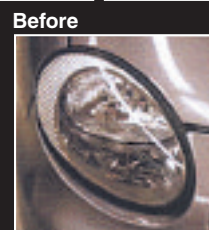
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Gatland says 'as you were!' to Wales squad

ANYONE who may have fondly imagined that Wales head coach Warren Gatland would follow his newly-installed England opposite number, Eddie Jones, and wield the axe over his initial 37-man squad for the upcoming Six Nations, would have been sorely disappointed with Tuesday's unveiling in Cardiff. In truth, even though the canny Kiwi is no mean Master of Surprise himself, he is also a pragmatist who values stability and continuity above all in the Welsh camp he has painstakingly assembled since taking over the reins in 2007. Hence just one uncapped player named – in-form Scarlets scrum half Aled Davies.

Juggling with personnel and making changes for changes' sake, is not really his style, particularly with a still youthful squad that performed so heroically, despite being decimated by injuries, during last autumn's Rugby World Cup.

That, and the carefully fostered spirit and morale within the Welsh camp, means that they can realistically go into their 2016 Six Nations campaign with hopes high for success.

DON JOHN

WALES' SQUAD

FORWARDS: Rob Evans (Scarlets), Paul James (Ospreys), Gethin Jenkins (Cardiff Blues), Tomas Francis (Exeter Chiefs), Aaron Jarvis (Ospreys), Samson Lee (Scarlets), Scott Baldwin (Ospreys), Kristian Dacey (Cardiff Blues), Ken Owens (Scarlets), Jake Ball (Scarlets), Luke Charteris (Racing 92), Bradley Davies (Wasps), Dominic Day (Bath Rugby), Alun Wyn Jones (Ospreys), Josh Turnbull (Cardiff Blues), Taulupe Faletau (Newport Gwent Dragons), James King (Ospreys), Dan Lydiate (Ospreys), Ross Moriarty (Gloucester Rugby), Justin Tipuric (Ospreys), Sam Warburton (captain, Cardiff Blues).

BACKS: Aled Davies (Scarlets), Gareth Davies (Scarlets), Lloyd Williams (Cardiff Blues), Dan Biggar (Ospreys), Rhys Priestland (Bath Rugby), Cory Allen (Cardiff Blues), Jonathan Davies (Clermont Auvergne), Tyler Morgan (Newport Gwent Dragons), Jamie Roberts (Harlequins), Hallam Amos (Newport Gwent Dragons), Alex Cuthbert (Cardiff Blues), Tom James (Cardiff Blues), George North (Northampton Saints), Gareth Anscombe (Cardiff Blues), Matthew Morgan (Bristol Rugby), Liam Williams (Scarlets).

Dinas Powys FC slip to an away defeat at Croesyceiliog

DINAS POWYS FC withstood some early pressure from hosts Croesyceiliog, and began to assert some pressure of their own down the right wing, Luke Swaffield and Sam Adamson combining well without really threatening the home team's goal.

The first real attempt on goal came from Croesy via a 25-yard free kick by Mike Baugh and which Dinas stand-in keeper for the day Liam

Sadler cleared with a kick under pressure from the Croesy attack.

Dinas began to get more possession at times but the home team's passing was better, enabling them to have the lion's share of possession. James Arnold was played in on goal but his effort was well over the Dinas cross-bar.

The game flowed from end to end but the Dinas centre backs, James Bloxham and Nathan Donnelly, were the busier most of the

time and Sadler made an excellent save from the impressive Baugh with 22 minutes gone.

The Dinas defence did well to force a goal kick after an excellent corner by Rhys Williams looked dangerous, and this was followed on 25 minutes when Jamie Arnold latched onto a cross at the far post but his shot was wide of Sadler's left upright.

Dinas then got their noses in front on the half-hour mark when their hard-working striker, Adam Johns, was upended in the box, the referee pointing straight to the penalty spot. Johns dusted himself down and took the kick, giving Tom Chorley no chance to save for 1-0 to the visitors, somewhat against the run of play.

Almost straight from the restart, Croesy were awarded a somewhat dubious penalty taken by Lee Mason.

Sadler made a fantastic save but the referee deemed he had come off his line and adjudged the kick be taken again, Mason hit it well enough but Sadler saved again and the defence cleared the ball.

The hosts continued to press for the last few minutes of the half but Dinas hung on to their lead as the half-time whistle went.

Dinas started the second period well with Johns, Myles Case and Rhys Palmer combining well without threatening the Croesy goal and the hosts began to get on top again, forcing two

corners. From the second one, Nathan Williams got a shot away which was weak and wide.

At the other end Palmer made a determined run down the left wing, cut inside the full back and got a powerful shot away which was just over the bar.

Croesy were then awarded a free kick just outside the Dinas 18-yard box and close to the goal line, this was headed goalward by Baugh, the ball clipping the top of the bar and going over for a goal kick.

Sadler was again called into action when a goalmouth scramble ensued and he got down smartly to smother the ball which was heading for the corner of the net.

Disaster struck for Dinas when Croesy were awarded what everyone seemed to think was a very dubious penalty when Donnelly was adjudged to have tripped a Croesy forward who didn't even go down and just lost his footing slightly.

Baugh took the kick to level the scores at one apiece with 20 minutes of the half gone.

Dinas then rang the changes, bringing on Tom Edwards for Myles Case and a couple of minutes later Palmer was chopped down and couldn't continue with an ankle injury, Ryan Garland replacing him.

Dinas almost took the lead again when a Garland free kick found the head of James Marr, whose effort was on

target just under the bar but Chorley managed to take the ball at full stretch, with 15 minutes remaining.

However, it was the hosts who got the winning goal with 10 minutes left when, after a free kick from the right, the ball was bundled in after another goalmouth scramble, Baugh getting the final touch for 2-1.

At the other end, a determined run and shot by Marr brought a good save from Chorley.

Dinas then made their final substitution with five minutes remaining, when Adamson was replaced by Gavin Lewis.

The final five minutes was marred as tempers flared and a player from each side was given his marching orders after an altercation, James Marr for Dinas and Aaron Harris for Croesy.

Croesy deserved the win and Dinas know they can play a lot better than this.

Squad: 1 Liam Sadler, 2 Luke Swaffield, 3 Rhys Harlin, 4 James Bloxham, 5 Nathan Donnelly, 6 Keiron James, 7 James Marr (c), 8 Sam Adamson, 9 Adam Johns (1), 10 Myles Case, 11 Rhys Palmer, 12 Tom Edwards, 14 Ryan Garland, 15 Gavin Lewis, 16 Macauley Wadsworth.

Next Saturday Dinas entertain Pontardawe Town at The Murch with a 2pm kick off.

PK

Barry seconds' are beaten in District Cup

BARRY Second XV finally returned to action after almost two months being sidelined by the inclement weather, with a home East District Cup tie against St Peters.

Coaches Rhidian Scott and Martin Tanner, and manager Ken Chow had the task of dusting off the cobwebs from the players, and handed recalls to Liam Ring, Jake Goodfellow and Dominic Busuttill. Harry Moyle made a welcome return on the substitutes' bench after a long lay off from injury.

Barry started as if they had not touched a rugby ball in weeks, which indeed was the case, and spent most of the opening exchanges conceding territory and possession.

With the elements and slope against them as well, the green-and-whites were forced to dig deep into the defensive resolve, but any chance of turning St Peters' ball over were hampered by the whistle-happy official, who seemed intent of stopping any competition for the ball in the contact area.

Despite a brief foray into the Rocks' half with runs by Jordan Clarke and Wayne Jones, St Peters put heavy pressure on the Barry line, resulting in a converted try at the half-hour mark.

At half-time Scott sent on Lloyd Dutton, Moyle and Corrigan, and urged his side to up the tempo.

The rallying worked instantaneously as, following a superb run from Wayne Jones in midfield, the ball was brilliantly recycled by Jamie Oaten, before Moyle powered across for his second try for the

club. Matt Russell failed to add the extras.

Barry were now sensing a comeback but a lapse in discipline allowed the Rocks to sneak another three points ahead from a penalty goal, making the task all the harder.

St Peters then managed to subdue the increasingly dominant Barry scrum by going uncontested.

The official's reluctance to play the advantage rule to let the game flow, most notably when he called the play back when Barry had three men bearing down on the try line, denied the home side further momentum.

Despite this, Barry hammered down at the away line for much of the last quarter of the game for that elusive try.

First Russell and then Owain Poole smelt the whitewash but they were unable to finish, and through a combination of determined St Peters' defence and refereeing decisions that Barry continued to question, the chance was gone.

While the final result of 10-5 was disappointing it was a relief for all supporters to see one of the senior sides back in action.

This weekend sees the first XV travel to Pontyclun, the second XV host St Peters (this time in the league) and the third XV visit Fairwater.

Team: Mephram; Russell, Busuttill (c), W Jones, Clarke; Williams, Gallivan; Hall, Such, Ring; Deyes, Oaten; L Jones, Poole, Goodfellow. Substitutes: Dutton, Moyle, Evans, Peake, Corrigan; substitutes not used: Fort, Chow. Man-of-the-match: Moyle.

KC

New year Congress held

THIS week saw the Wales new year Congress held in Penarth.

There were 37 entries into the Open Section and 21 entrants in the Major Section. The Barry Chess Club was represented in both sections with Nigel Ralphs and Stephen Bonutto in the Open Section and Peter Watkins and Merlin Davies in the Major Section.

In the Open Section Nigel was ranked to finish eighth with Stephen ranked to finish last. Nigel started with two wins followed by a draw with David Sands, ranked second with a rating of 2143.

Nigel followed this excellent result with wins in rounds four and five to give him a score of 4.5 out of 5 and first place.

This is his second tournament victory of the season as he won the first congress of the season back in August and now the first congress of 2016.

Stephen managed to earn a solitary point. This was enough to ensure he didn't finish last. There were a number of players ranked higher than Stephen who played in the Major Section but Stephen wanted to test himself against the strongest players!

Also in the Major Section, Peter managed to earn three points with two wins and two draws. This gave him a return of three points from his five games, and he finished equal fifth.

Merlin, being ranked to finish last, found himself playing five players all with higher ratings. In the first round he beat Beryl Hughes with a rating 500 points above Merlin's.

While he couldn't quite repeat this performance he also defeated Daniel Chung to finish on two points. An excellent result, putting him in mid-table!

This was followed by the Camelots visit to St John's College to take on the Positrons, who are holding up the table.

Despite good wins for Rhys Steele and Martin Ricketts we were unable to find the extra point to give us victory and returned home having suffered a 3-2 loss.

In their next game the Camelots will play Barry's other division 1 team, the Bosons. A heavy defeat, hopefully not a whitewash, will all but condemn the Camelots to playing their trade in the second division come September.

The Barry Chess Club meets at 7.30pm each Monday at the West End Club, St. Nicholas Road, Barry CF62 6QY.

The club is open to players of all standards.

For more details visit our website at <http://barrychessclub.yolasite.com>.

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